

## Labour's left in play to abolish Lords

Proposal to achieve the necessary majority to the House of Lords by packing it with Party supporters is disclosed in a partial draft election manifesto of the national executive. It also proposes a for an almost dole-free society and the abolition of a 35-hour working week.

## Leadership to resist NEC proposals

Mr. Hattersley, Labour's spokesman on the House of Lords, said that the Labour Party's manifesto in order to achieve the abolition of the House of Lords, according to a document circulating among members of the national executive committee.

The proposal to achieve the necessary majority to the House of Lords by packing it with Party supporters is disclosed in a partial draft election manifesto of the national executive. It also proposes a for an almost dole-free society and the abolition of a 35-hour working week.

Other proposals include: a progressive move, over the lifetime of the next Labour Government, to a 35-hour working week, without loss of pay; longer holidays, time off for study and earlier voluntary retirement.

A national plan to regenerate Britain's industrial base including the establishment of a National Planning Commission. It would also mean that a Labour Government would take statutory powers to make planning agreements effective.

A future Labour Government would establish a big public enterprise stake in such important industrial sectors. Public ownership would be extended into microelectronics, pharmaceuticals and medical equipment, and construction.

Labour would also set up an investment fund, to channel money from pension funds and life assurance companies, along with public revenues, particularly North Sea oil, into industrial investment; establish a National Bank based upon Giro and the National Savings Bank to compete with the central banks; reform the Bank of England; and extend public ownership into banking and insurance.

The working will not be mended, the draft says that the un-elected House of Lords is to be abolished and replaced by a Labour Government.



Viktor Korchnoi whose presence has ensured the absence of any Soviet Union competitors.

## Peak time at chess congress

By Alan Hamilton

The highest megawattage of grandmasters assembled in Britain for more than 40 years was switched on with an almost audible hum of brain cells yesterday for the opening of the Phillips and Drew Kings International chess tournament at County Hall, London.

A tournament of such power has not been seen in Britain since 1936, when Blackburn and Bird played at Nottingham, and it is seen as an indication of the vigorous revival of British chess.

The combined power of the 14 contestants is 35,650 on the Elo scale, the chess players' measuring scale of ability; 12 international grandmasters have been joined by two of England's brightest young stars.

Leading the field is Viktor Korchnoi (Elo rating 2,695), the exiled Russian grandmaster now playing for Switzerland and rated No 2 in the world, whose

presence has ensured the absence of any competitors from the Soviet Union.

Karpov, the world champion, and Romanishin, another Russian grandmaster, accepted personal invitations from the British Chess Federation to take part, but a subsequent telegram from the Soviet Chess Federation informed the British organizers that they would not be attending.

No explanation was given, but the organizers are in no doubt about the reason. They preferred the presence of Korchnoi, a strong player, to the absence of Karpov, who is the world champion.

Five British players are taking part, including Tony Miles (rated 2,545) who became our first grandmaster in 1975, and Nigel Short (2,360), the outstanding 14-year-old from Atherstone, near Bolton, considered by many to be the strongest player for his age since Bobby Fischer.

The home team is completed by John Nunn (2,510), who went up to Oxford at 15 to become, he believes, the youngest undergraduate since Cardinal Wolsey; Michael Stean (2,530), Korchnoi's second in the world title

fight against Karpov; and Jonathan Speelman, another young Briton on his way to grandmaster status.

Mr. Stewart Reuben, the tournament director, believes that the remarkable revival of British chess, culminating in the team being placed third after the USSR and Hungary at the recent European Team Championships, is the result of taking British chess by the scruff of the neck in the middle-seventies and giving it a thorough shaking.

Phillips and Drew, the stockbrokers, have put £21,000 into this new contest, and the Greater London Council has weighed in with a further £8,000, part of the proceeds of its weekly lottery. The total prize money of £10,000, and the first prize of £3,000, are believed to be British records.

One of the highlights of the 16-day tournament comes on the second day today when the youthful Short meets the seasoned Korchnoi, who is the favourite. Master Short revealed before the start of play yesterday that he had been training for this momentous meeting... by learning judo.

Results, page 2

## Mr Carter chides his allies as EEC delays action on Iran

By Our Foreign Staff

Friends and allies of the United States in Europe are still shuffling their feet uncomfortably in response to American requests for cooperation in action over Iran. They want to show solidarity, but they have been reckoning the cost of sanctions and doubt that they would be effective.

In Lisbon yesterday the EEC Foreign Ministers agreed not to make a decision on President Carter's call for sanctions. Reserving judgment, they decided instead to instruct their ambassadors to demand the release of the 50 hostages held in Tehran. The question of sanctions was not debated.

The French have been the least willing to adopt a tough position on Iran. The West Germans, however, have been lobbying actively for strong measures in support of the United States.

Meanwhile, there is a feeling in Rome that the Americans have put their allies in an embarrassing position—first, by being too weak in their early reactions to the crisis in Iran, and now in expecting members of the EEC to follow the Americans' more rigorous position of the past few days.

President Carter in Washington yesterday indirectly accused America's allies of dragging their feet over Iran. In a speech to the annual meeting of the managing editors of the American press, he said: "People constantly ask America for a response to myriads, and often conflicting, concerns."

Nations as for leadership the same time, they demand independence of action. They ask for aid, but reject interference. They ask for understanding, yet often decline to understand us in return.

"Satisfactory leadership, but are wary of the obligations of alliance. Others ask for firmness and certainty, but at the same time demand the flexibility required by the pace of change and the subtlety of events."

These problems were illustrated perfectly by the Iranian crisis, Mr. Carter added. "No other single event seems so clearly to mirror the disorder of our times and the competing

pressures on a great and powerful nation."

Europe's view: Officials of the European Communities have calculated that the EEC would risk the loss of 6.9 per cent of its external oil supplies if it went ahead with sanctions and provoked Iran into shutting off the oil tap (Michael Hornsby writes from Brussels).

The EEC could "live" with the loss of Iranian supplies, which in any case have decreased dramatically since the Shah's overthrow, but it would still hurt.

In 1978—the last year of the Shah's rule—the EEC imported 1.55 million barrels of oil a day from Iran, or 16.3 per cent of the Community's total imports of crude. Last year the comparable figures were 656,000 barrels a day and 6.9 per cent, a decline of almost 60 per cent.

Some EEC states are more dependent than others on Iranian supplies; for example, West Germany last year purchased 12.6 per cent of its oil imports from Iran, Denmark 14.5 per cent, and Ireland 16.9 per cent.

The position of member states, based on 1979 data, is as follows (the figures in brackets give imports from Iran as a percentage of the country's total imports of crude, including imports from Britain):

West Germany: 228,000 barrels a day (12.6 per cent)  
France: 124,000 barrels (5.4)  
Britain: 94,000 barrels (7.1)  
Holland: 90,000 barrels (8.2)  
Belgium/Luxembourg: 52,000 barrels (7.9)  
Italy: 48,000 barrels (2.1)  
Denmark: 14,000 barrels (14.5)  
Ireland: 8,000 barrels (26.9)

If oil supplies from Iran were cut off, Britain, as the EEC's only oil producer, could come under pressure to purchase a minimum level of supply to its Community partners and thus deplete its reserves faster than it might wish. The Germans have long been pressing for a commitment of this kind.

The mechanism for sharing oil supplies in a crisis is only activated if the EEC suffers a shortfall of at least 7 per cent—a bigger shortfall, in other

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## The night of bright lights over Britain

By Ronald Kershaw

Nocturnal dog walkers, sober and responsible air traffic controllers and normally coherent citizens of good standing leapt to their telephones in the early hours of yesterday to seek advice and ask for an explanation of trails of fire, flashing lights and incandescent glows which filled the night sky.

In Manchester, 40 people telephoned the police to tell of bright lights illuminating their bedrooms and in Stockport there was a report of "an object" landing in a field. Investigating police found nothing. At Manchester Airport, air traffic controllers saw the sky illuminated by an unexplained bright light and at Hucknall, near Nottingham, an object with a fiery tail whizzed just a local resident in land in a field. Again, nothing was found.

From Bristol and North Wales to the Scottish border, reports of unusual happenings in the sky flooded into police stations. A woman at Allerton Bywater near Leeds told of a white flare in the sky which lit up her bedroom. When she looked out she saw "a trail of fire". A man walking his dog through Adel Woods, Leeds, saw a "maroon flare" which lit up the sky and another man in Adel telephoned the police to say he had seen a white flare at about 500 feet in the air between Adel and Yeading.

North Yorkshire police said they received nine separate reports from different parts of the county of sightings in the sky. Mr. John Ward, of Newlands Drive, Acornthorpe, reported "something like a large white flare" passing overhead.

The multiplicity of reports made it fairly clear that some sort of gigantic phenomenon occurred and that this was not a purely imaginative rerun of Star Wars.

Early reports that the night lights had been produced by falling space debris entering the atmosphere were quickly discounted by an unusually confident explanation from the Ministry of Defence.

Two showers of meteorites entered the atmosphere at 12.30 am, the ministry said, and disintegration caused the lights in the sky.

## EEC summit date fixed but delays likely in settling British claim

From Michael Hornsby

Brussels, April 10

The postponed EEC summit meeting, which was to have been held last week with Mrs Margaret Thatcher's claim for a reduction in the Community's budget at the top of the agenda, will now take place on April 27 and 28 in Luxembourg.

Even if an agreement is reached then, its final approval by Belgium, now in the throes of a government crisis, would have to await the formation of a new Cabinet.

This difficulty could provide a pretext for countries such as France to argue for postponement of a final decision until the EEC's summer summit meeting in Venice in June in the belief that the British claims could be whitened down in the interim. Such a delay

would be politically disastrous for Mrs Thatcher.

The date of the Luxembourg meeting was announced today by Signor Francesco Cossiga, the Italian Prime Minister, whose country holds the EEC presidency until the end of June. He will chair the summit meeting, and he is expected to engage in preparatory talks with other EEC leaders during the next two weeks.

There is no doubt that the Italians, and most other member states, were glad to postpone a meeting which had all the makings of a demagogic confrontation over the British budget issue. Relations between France and Britain, in particular, had reached their nadir.

Since then tempers have cooled somewhat, and there was a notably better atmosphere in London at the end of last month when Mrs Thatcher met Herr

Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor. But there is still no hard evidence that the results will make a solution any easier.

A recent estimate by Mr Roy Jenkins, President of the European Commission, that less than £250m now separated what Britain was demanding from what other countries were prepared to offer was ridiculous, for the French are "irreducible".

For their part the British insist that they are not ready to make more than a "modest" net contribution to the budget, and certainly not more than France. This would imply no more than £180m or so.

To achieve this Mrs Thatcher would need a cut of at least £900m. Yet, on the evidence available, £600m is the absolute maximum that even the most generous of Britain's partners might offer.

## Signs of tighter money control

Figures for the four weeks to signs that bank lending is slowing money supply in the economy. The increase in the private sector is down when the figure is seasonally likely to show a rise but it should in February. This was the first time the Government's new monetary broad-based measure was 0.5 per cent in the month suggesting that the Government's 7.1 per cent growth aim

## Prices increase

Over the new cars sold in Britain over months of 1980 were imported from overseas factories of British manufacturers. The increase in BL's share of sales went to 23.74 per cent is attributed to a strong

## Y hospitals strike

Health, physiotherapists and speech therapists' first one-day strike over omission of recommendations, an air on working hours was made in Council. No agreement had been over, on emergency duty payments 7,000 paramedical staff, the Society

## Steel strike threat

Facing a possible steel strike, this private sector, rests on a meeting of the Trades Union Congress leaders on the union executive will consider after the breakdown of negotiations 4,000 Midland workers

## Cuts to hold poll

Despite of British Architects is to see if members wish to be allowed to sell services and take directorships of building companies

## Offer of asylum for some Cuban refugees

Some of the 10,000 Cubans at the Peruvian Embassy in Havana have been offered asylum in the five Andean Pact countries and Spain. Peru said after an emergency meeting of the pact that it would accept 1,000 refugees, but it is not known how many the other countries will take

## Murdoch loan inquiry

United States Senate banking committee investigators are inquiring into a low-interest loan given to Rupert Murdoch, the Australian publisher. Press reports have suggested a link between its exceptionally low interest rate and support for President Carter's reelection expressed by Mr. Murdoch's New York Post

## Dr Kung keeps chair

Professor Hans Kung, the theologian barred by the Vatican from teaching Catholic theology, will retain his chair at Tubingen University. It will be detached, however, from the Catholic Theological Faculty and placed directly under the authority of the university senate. Dr Kung said he found the solution "acceptable and very honourable on the part of the university"

## Seamen back action day

The National Union of Seamen recommended its 33,000 members not to work on May 14, the TUC's day of action against government policies. As other unions signified their support, Mr. Len Murray, general secretary, said: "If we cannot get a proper hearing in Downing Street, we have to speak out in Trafalgar Square"

Barcelona: A Catalan Parliament meets for the first time in 41 years at a nostalgic session which ignored secessionists shouting outside 6 Italy: Hundreds of carabinieri carry out raids against suspected terrorists in four cities 6

Deprived areas: Government ministers are being asked to reconsider cuts in aid to places where unemployment and crime are linked 4 Classified advertisements: Personal, pages 26, 28; Car Buyers' Guide, 26; Holidays and Hotels, 25; Appointments, 25, 27

## Israelis send more troops across Lebanese border

From Christopher Walker

Meir, April 10

Amid growing international protests, the Israeli army moved new positions inside southern Lebanon today in readiness for what appeared to be a long stay. By tonight the number of heavily armed Israeli troops based several miles across the border was reported to have increased to about 350.

The Israeli authorities have blacked out all but the barest information about their new operation.

But senior United Nations officials claimed that heavy earthmoving equipment could be seen fortifying Israeli positions in three different areas of the Christian buffer zone known as free Lebanon, including one in disputed territory which the United Nations say they control.

According to United Nations sources, the Israelis used bulldozers to cut new roads in the rugged terrain and to throw up defensive earthworks around their new positions. They also claimed that they would decrease their offensive capabilities.

Because of the international political picture, he said, Israel had not taken the offensive against Palestinian terrorists based inside Lebanon for the past six months. His remarks

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## Foreign Office denies apology to Saudis over Princess's execution film

By David Watts

The Foreign Office was trying last night to cool the controversy over the ATV film, *Death of a Princess*, which depicted the public execution of a Saudi princess accused of adultery with a commoner.

A spokesman denied that there had been any apology to the Saudi Government. Members of Parliament had accused Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, of "crawling" to the Riyadh Government and apologizing to a "reactionary, feudal state".

The Foreign Office was at pains to point out that a message from Lord Carrington to the Saudis did not constitute an apology as the film was not of the Government's making and therefore Whitehall could not be held responsible for it.

offence that the film might cause in Saudi Arabia. It added that the British Government had no power to interfere in the editorial content of programmes, still less to ban them.

The showing of the programme came at a sensitive juncture for the Saudis. Not only was there considerable disagreement within the Saudi royal household about the advisability of the execution of Princess Michaela, but the Saudis are going through a phase of extra-sensitivity to the West.

British businessmen are already finding the atmosphere cool to the point of hostility within the Kingdom and the showing of the film will undoubtedly contribute to that. However, reports that the Saudi Government was considering retaliation over oil supplies on trade would seem to be wide of the mark.

The Foreign Office detailed the following sequence of events: the British ambassador in Jeddah, Mr. James Craig, left the Kingdom on vacation on March 29. On April 3, Prince Saud al Faisal, the Saudi Foreign Minister, summoned the British Chargé d'Affaires to express his concern.

The next day Mr. Craig, who had been on holiday in France, was summoned to London and instructed to return to his post. The spokesman said that Sir Ian Gilmour, the Lord Privy Seal, had been in touch with ATV before the showing of the programme on Wednesday night to ensure that the company was aware of the strength of Saudi feeling.

A spokesman for ATV said that he knew nothing about reports that the Saudi royal family had offered £5m to prevent the film being shown.

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## HOME NEWS

## Medical workers given improved offer after protest walkout

By Annabel Perriman

Health Services Correspondent

An improved offer on working hours for Britain's 37,000 paramedical staff was made in the Whitley Council yesterday as their first one-day strike came to an end.

Two thirds of the National Health Service radiographers, physiotherapists, and speech therapists stayed a day of protest over the recommendations of the Clegg comparability commission that they all work a 37-hour week.

Radiographers now work a 35-hour week, physiotherapists 36 hours and speech therapists 33 hours. Only if they worked the longer hours would they get the full 15 per cent pay rise recommended.

The Society of Radiographers said last night that an improved offer on hours had been made but no agreement had been reached on other issues, in particular on emergency duty payments. They were now paid 75p a night for stand-by duty and the Clegg commission had recommended £1.50.

Mrs Lesley Payne, the society's assistant industrial relations officer, said she hoped further progress would be made today. The strike had been "extremely successful".

Radiographers left skeleton

staffs to deal with emergencies in many hospitals.

"About 70 per cent of our members took part. At hospitals where demonstrations were held to explain our case, the patients were very sympathetic," she said. The society represents 9,000 of the 10,000 radiographers in health service hospitals.

The National and Local Government Officers' Association, which represents 20,000 paramedical staff, also called out its members and reported a 75 per cent response.

"The radiographers were the most militant because they have so much to lose. They are also more organized because they work in hospitals, whereas other paramedical staff, such as chiropodists, are more isolated."

Members of the staff side of the Whitley Council are to meet Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister of State for Health, today.

The Royal College of Nursing said yesterday that it was bitterly disappointed about Dr Vaughan's statement that the nurses' pay settlement this year would have to be in line with the Government's cash limits of 14 per cent. The nurses had claimed 30 to 35 per cent.

## Dismissal 'made BL convener ill'

From Our Correspondent

Birmingham

Mr Derek Robinson, the former British Leyland convener, went on believing that British Leyland would do a deal with him after his dismissal. He believed that even after men in the Longbridge plants where he was employed had refused to strike in support of his reinstatement.

That was disclosed yesterday at a Birmingham industrial tribunal, where it was said that Mr Robinson's dismissal from his toolmaker's job on November 19 last had made him ill.

Mr Robinson was to have explained to the tribunal why he had made a claim of unfair dismissal 10 days outside the statutory time limit of three months.

But the tribunal agreed to an adjournment requested by Mr John Bowden, Mr Robinson's representative, and will hear the claim on April 30 to consider the preliminary point of whether the tribunal has jurisdiction to hear a full claim of unfair dismissal.

Mr Bowden said that after Mr Robinson's application had been made he had been visited by an official of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service and had believed that conciliation was possible.

## Strike threat to some private steel companies

By Donald Macintyre

Labour Reporter

Hopes of averting a possible steel strike in private companies less than two weeks after settlement of the national public sector stoppage rest on a meeting of union leaders next Wednesday.

The Iron and Steel Trades Confederation executive will consider its next step after the breakdown of negotiations for about 4,000 private sector workers under the auspices of the industry's Midlands Wages Board.

Union delegates have rejected an offer from employers representing about 20 companies of a 15.5 per cent increase with fringe benefits, including holiday provision, which would bring the total to 17 per cent.

The union originally demanded 25 per cent but has since made clear that it is seeking 21 per cent.

Although the executive will be under some local pressure to recommend industrial action, it will also be considering a rarely used machinery of independent arbitration contained in the wages board procedure.

That would involve Mr Alfred Fieldhouse, formerly secretary of the board's wages secretariat and now retired, taking on the duty of "president" to consider the difference between the two sides and making a recommendation.

The workers involved are mainly in re-rolling plants and include employees of GKN, Dupont and the Dorelec Group. The strike has probably cost the corporation about 10 per cent of its share of the United Kingdom steel market.

The corporation confirmed that figure, which amounts to a potential loss of about 1.5 million tonnes with a sales value of about £300m a year.

The institute said last night that in the short term the initial loss could be even greater and added that steel buyers were reluctant to buy from the corporation until full production had been resumed, and that it was clear that there were no

## Mr Carlisle gets a friendlier reception

Education Correspondent

Harrington

Members of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers (NAS-UWT) gave Mr Mark Carlisle, QC, Secretary of State for Education and Science, such a friendly reception in Harrogate yesterday that their general secretary had to warn the minister not to misinterpret their kindness as acquiescence to any of his statements.

The good humour and respectful behaviour of the 1,000 delegates at the union's annual conference was, of course intended to be in marked contrast to the rough reception given to Mr Carlisle on Tuesday by left-wing teachers at the National Union of Teachers' conference in Blackpool.

There were rumblings of discontent yesterday when Mr Carlisle tried to explain the Government's policies on public expenditure, but the only really angry shouts came when he said he disagreed with the NAS-UWT's view that the professional status of teachers would be inhibited or destroyed by a

more precise definition of a teacher's rights and responsibilities.

Mr Carlisle had prefaced his speech by saying that he did not expect every delegate to agree with every one of the Government's policies. But I would expect that where we disagree we would be able to argue out the disagreement in a civilized manner [loud applause] and in a feeling of mutual trust and respect for the role each of us is required to undertake.

Thanking Mr Carlisle at the end of his address, Mr Terence Casey, the union's general secretary, said: "The minister's priorities for schools are not very far from our own, but somehow they get rough handled when they get to people in local authorities like Trafford."

Earlier, delegates had voted by nine to one to oppose any consideration of participation in the TUC's day of action on May 14 against the Government's spending cuts. Mr Len Murray, the TUC general secretary, is to address the conference today.

Mr Ronald Cocking, treasurer of the NAS-UWT, said that Mr Murray had made clear that the day of action did not constitute a trade union dispute. "It must therefore be a political dispute," Mr Cocking said.

"But we are a non-political organization. We treat both parties in power with the same respect or decision. Our strength as a union has led a great deal to do with the fact that we have not got bunches of stupid letters who hang banners from balconies and walk out on ministers, of what we call party."

A motion "vehemently condemning recent and proposed cuts in education expenditure, damaging to the education of children in our care and ultimately for the whole future of the country" was passed unanimously.

Delegates listened in silence when Mr Carlisle later told them: "For all our problems, I stand by our commitment to maintain, and where possible to improve, the quality of education."

Turning to comprehensive reorganization, he said that he wanted to point out to those who believed that a Conservative government was opposed to comprehensive schools that he had approved five of the six schemes for comprehensive reorganization of which he had so far taken decisions.

On examinations, Mr Carlisle said that education interests were divided about the proposed new Certificate of Extended Education (CEE) for pupils at the age of 17. Just over half were in favour of its introduction and the rest were opposed to it in varying degrees.

While he thought we should beware of regarding public examinations as the only work while incentive, a complete programme of work, he thought there were telling arguments in favour of an examination that provided a goal for young people of modest abilities who intended to enter employment at 17 rather than continue their full-time education.

He believed that the new examination should have some vocational bias.

## BSC warned about sales slump

By Peter Hill

Industrial Editor

The British Steel Corporation could lose steel sales estimated to be worth £300m a year unless production and customer confidence can quickly be restored.

That was the stark warning issued last night by one of the leading organizations representing the corporation's customers as steel works up and down the country approached the end of the first week of work after the damaging 13-week strike.

Sounding among users, according to the Institute of Purchasing and Supply, the corporation has probably lost its last share of the market. The return to production after the strike was proving to be smoother and swifter than had been expected in virtually all its main works.

"If we cannot recapture that lost fairly quickly, then the consequences for all BSC steel mills will be very serious indeed," Mr Sambrook said.

Before the strike the corporation's share of the United Kingdom's steel market was 54 per cent.

This year demand for steel is likely to be down to about 14.25 million tonnes, the lowest

level since the early part of the 1960s, and that reduction comes as the corporation faces increasing costs which it is unable to pass on in higher prices.

As the same time it is being forced to cut costs through a massive retrenchment programme in a desperate effort to remain within the government's cash limit of £450m in the current financial year.

With plans to expand the North-east, add South Wales, and begin to build up production of iron and steel, the hope is that by the autumn the corporation will have regained the bulk of the business it has lost.

But the ability of the corporation to make progress towards its government-mandated financial objectives by reducing costs and improving productivity will be shaped by talks with unions over the retrenchment programme. That will lead to the loss of a further 30,000 jobs.

Agreement has already been reached on the loss of 22,000 jobs, at which the corporation will start in the next 10 days.

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## Private aid sought for inner cities

By John Young

Planning Reporter

Government is to seek much wider private participation in its efforts to regenerate the inner cities, Mr Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, indicated yesterday.

Mr King, who is in charge of the Urban Development Corporation, said that the government was looking for a new type of partnership between the public and private sectors in Britain.

He was speaking at the end of an Anglo-American conference at Sandhurst, Berkshire, at which his counterpart was Mr Victor Marrero, President of the Urban Development Corporation (UDC).

Among the companies taking part in the conference were General Motors, IBM, British Petroleum, Marks and Spencer, Pilkington, Shell and British Oxygen.

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## Call to end bickering by teachers unions

From Richard Garner

Times Educational Supplement

A teachers' union he said yesterday that new recommendations in the Clegg report would be considered by his union "minimum level" negotiations with the Government.

Mr Peter Kennedy, of the National Association of Teachers (NAT), said the last day of the conference in Blackpool, a "minimum level" negotiations with the Government.

Professor Clegg's teachers' pay is to be on Monday, and he said the recommendations would be considered by his union "minimum level" negotiations with the Government.

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## Talks start in 'blackened lorries' dispute

From Ronald Kershaw

Sheffield

Nearly all the steel workers in Yorkshire and Humberside had returned to work with enormous enthusiasm and nothing was more apparent than the thought of another strike, Mr Derek Canham, the British Steel Corporation's personnel director, said in Sheffield yesterday.

There was an immense will to work, he said, and management and men had jointly to capitalize on that to win back the corporation's market share.

As he spoke, a joint working party of management and unions met for the first time

to try to resolve the crisis of "blackened" lorries, over which 15,000 Sheffield and Rotherham men walked out on strike last week, a few hours after the resumption of work after the national stoppage.

Mr John Pennington, the corporation's managing director, Yorkshire and Humberside, said the meeting was to explain the role of haulage in the corporation's business and the contracts with hauliers.

The corporation, he said, could not recognize a blacklist of hauliers produced by the unions of drivers and companies that had crossed picket lines during the national strike, nor

could it recognize a "white list" of those who did not.

The corporation would undertake to listen to any questions the unions wanted to discuss, and take them up with haulage contractors.

Mr David Houghton, the corporation's commercial director, said that in trying to recapture its market share the key point to get across to customers was the elimination of doubt in people's minds and to impress on them that the corporation was a consistent and reliable supplier.

He said: "We can deal with prices and terms of contracts but we have to convince them on supplies."

## Korchnoi wins first game in London chess

By Harry Colombeck

Chess Correspondent

There was much exciting play in the first round of the Phillips and Drew Kings grandmaster chess tournament at County Hall, London, yesterday.

It was fitting that Viktor Korchnoi, one of the best tournament players of all time, should celebrate his first appearance in a London international tournament by winning in excellent style against the Yugoslav grandmaster, Ljubovjevic.

The Yugoslav tried to complicate matters too quickly with the black pieces and Korchnoi coolly took advantage of his premature attack to repel it and win in 37 moves.

The other winner of the day was the Romanian grandmaster, Florin Gheorghiu, who played one of those graceful, fluent games at which he excels to beat a formidable opponent in the young but stubborn Swedish grandmaster, Ulf Andersson, in 32 moves.

In the three adjourned games Nigel Short, aged 14, looks to have a clearly won position against Tony Miles.

Results in round one: Shortman 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

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# "It took a very special car to lure me back to motor racing after 18 years."



The car Stirling Moss is pictured with is his own perfectly standard Audi 80 GLE.

Naturally, it is a fast car. 0-60 mph takes just 9.2 seconds. Top speed is a highly creditable 113 mph.

Yet as Stirling has discovered, sheer performance is by no means its only attribute.

"This is not only a fast car, but a safe car. Roadholding and stability at speed are faultless."

Stirling looks also for both comfort and economy in his personal saloon, of course.

In his own words, the 80 GLE is "very luxurious and very quiet. And surprisingly economical for such a powerful car."

The Audi 80 he'll be driving in the Tricentrol British Saloon Car Championship is a specially prepared version, as you'd expect.

The performance has been boosted.

The suspension modified. The luxurious appointments have made way for more functional equipment.

But as Stirling pointed out: "Even in standard form, the 80 clearly has all the makings of a race winner."

If you'd like to try the Audi 80 GLE (or indeed our LS or GLS version), your local Audi dealer will gladly offer you a test drive.

Stirling said at the beginning that this is "a very special car."

We have every confidence that you'll agree.

**The new Audi 80.**  
**Audi The car for now.**

## HOME NEWS

## Ministers advised to review cut in funds to help jobless blacks

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Minister Mr. James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, is being asked to reconsider cuts in aid to potentially explosive deprived areas, where a link is seen between unemployment and crime and extremist organizations are waiting to take advantage.

The Commission for Racial Equality wrote in October to Mr. Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, saying: "We are seriously concerned that the withdrawal of special temporary employment funds (Step) from several areas of high black population will have a severe effect on employment and training opportunities for young people."

The programme was to have filled 30,000-35,000 places by March 31 all over Britain. The revised programme will aim at maintaining a level of 12,000-14,000 places, concentrated in the areas of greatest need.

Bristol, scene of arson, looting and violence last week, is one of the places where the cutting of the funds affects projects seen as crucial to the black unemployed.

In Bristol a survey by the Department of Employment in 1978 showed that among the registered unemployed black and Asian adults more than two thirds were unskilled, a third had been unemployed for more than 12 months and 37 per cent were aged 20-30, precisely the people Step was designed to aid.

Yet money for 13 youth helpers in Bristol to help young people to get jobs was withdrawn. The funds for a resource centre created to assist the unemployed to find work have been axed.

Other places facing cuts include Kensington and Chelsea, in London, already the scene of riots. Last year the Government cut Step funds nationally from £84.6m to £42.4m.

But the Manpower Services Commission plans to increase the Youth Opportunities Programme by a third in the south-west region this year.

Under the programme young people unable to find a job are given work experience either with employers or on projects in posts financed by the commission.

Nationally there are plans to increase such posts from more than 200,000 to 250,000-300,000 this year for those aged 16 to 18.

In London alarm at a possible

repetition of Bristol-type riots has been expressed to Mr. William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, by an organization representing 31 black and Asian councillors, the Standing Conference of Afro-Caribbean and Asian Councillors.

Mr. Russell Profit, its Guyanese-born secretary, has written to Mr. Whitelaw: "Violent and horrific outbreaks such as that recently seen in Bristol are dangerously close."

The councillors are urgently seeking a meeting with Mr. Whitelaw. Their demands include no cuts in the urban programme, Lewisham Borough Council, in London, for example, is fighting against the axing of funds for 17 schemes.

But aid worth £23,000 in capital costs and almost £100,000 in running costs is being given to Lewisham, the Department of the Environment reported yesterday.

It announced that in England about 270 projects had been approved.

Urban aid had been approved on new schemes worth £7.8m in town and cities with special social needs.

The lesson of Bristol is that places not nationally known for their racial tension, unlike Brixton, Notting Hill or Handsworth, in Birmingham, may be vulnerable to trouble if the ingredients are explosive.

Unemployment is one of them. Black school-leavers interviewed in Lewisham for a study by the Commission for Racial Equality were three times as likely as their white counterparts to be unemployed.

The Home Office Research Unit has reported that five studies disclosed high unemployment among detected offenders. The rate of unemployment among young blacks is particularly high.

Extremists anxious to make political capital out of it are moving in, thereby making for more serious alienation among young blacks by portraying the police as the most visible instrument of state repression of the black minority in Britain today.

Those are the words of the latest Socialist Challenge, which has front-page banner headlines saying: "One year after Southall defeat black people win in Bristol." Inside it refers to the riot as "Carnival of the oppressed."

Letters, page 15

## Boys made petrol bombs for use in Bristol clash

From Our Correspondent Bristol

A gang of teenagers made seven Molotov cocktails using milk bottles, petrol and strips of cloth, and hid them under a hedge for use in a riot against the police, it was alleged at Bristol Juvenile Court yesterday.

The cache was discovered by a housewife who told the police before the bombs could be put into use. It was added:

Three boys, aged 13, 14 and 15, were accused of making the bombs during riots in the Southmead district of Bristol last week.

Inspector Philip Vester, for the prosecution, said several policemen were injured by flying missiles and shops were looted as 150 youths ran amok through a shopping centre. He added: "We received information that more trouble was expected, and there was a suggestion that petrol bombs would be used."

One of the boys said in an alleged statement that they had been to the riots and thought it would be a "good crack to make some petrol bombs."

He had added: "We got some bottles and filled them with petrol, then pushed cloths into the top. We tested one out in the park, but it did not explode, so we kicked it around until it caught fire."

"One of my mates' shoes caught in the fire when he kicked it. We hid the rest under the hedge. I was not going to throw them, but we knew someone who would."

The three, who all admitted the offence, were remanded in the care of the Avon social services while reports are prepared.

A fourth boy, aged 15, who denied being involved, was also remanded to a later date.

Local government elections: The turn of Conservatives to feel the sting of unpopularity  
Big recovery by Labour expected in Scottish polling

From Ronald Faux Edinburgh

Some Scottish local councils will be returned to their traditional political fold in the district elections on May 1. Three years ago, when elections were last held for this second tier of local government, the Labour Party was deeply unpopular and the Scottish National Party had yet to begin its spectacular decline.

It is unlikely that the nationalists will improve on the present subdued showing alongside the Liberals and it is the Conservatives' turn to feel the sting of unpopularity.

Labour alone can seriously relish this first real test of public opinion since the election, particularly when any healing benefits of the Government's medicine have yet to be felt. Only the bitter taste is being experienced at present in Scotland.

The Scottish Council of the Labour Party has named 19 districts it is preparing to add to the six the party already controls. Such buoyant expectations are supported by the latest opinion poll on voting intentions.

Taken in March by System Three, it placed Labour unassailably ahead in its traditional position of popularity north of the border. The party

was chosen by 49 per cent of the sample. Conservatives by 27 per cent, with the Scottish National Party and Liberals trailing at 14 and 10 per cent respectively.

Mr. James Allison, Scottish organizer of the Labour Party, admitted that Labour had been humiliated in the last district elections. The party had lost 131 seats and surely had struck the bedrock of its support.

Labour is now in a position to pull back its normal strength and add an extra weight of votes from the Government's unpopularity and the collapse of the nationalists.

Most people took the opportunity at local elections to show their feelings about the government of the day, Mr. Allison said, and the current Tory Government was an embarrassment to the Conservative Party.

With inflation running at 20 per cent, Scottish unemployment above 200,000 and public expenditure cuts affecting Scotland particularly badly, the Conservatives could hardly be helped.

There are some 1,120 district seats to be contested. The Highlands and some rural areas have a tradition of having non-political local elections, leaving about 800 seats that will be contested by political parties. Some will have new local government

boundaries, notably Edinburgh, Stirling, Falkirk and Clackmannanshire, but about four fifths of Scottish districts will be contested on the same boundaries.

Edinburgh district will be an interesting contest in which the new boundaries are thought likely to swing the balance to Labour. The Tories hold Edinburgh at present, but the city is one of Labour's most confident hopes.

The Conservatives expect to field more than the 50 candidates who contested the last district elections. Party workers accept that some losses are inevitable, but there are issues that could swing votes their way, particularly the level of rates set by some Labour councils.

The action of certain local authorities in refusing to trim public spending to the Government's guidelines and pushing through heavy rate increases, the Tories feel, could rebound on the Labour Party.

"Rates will be crucial in this election," a Tory official said. In Edinburgh the Labour-controlled regional rate has risen by 41.5 per cent while the Conservative district is holding its level to 18 per cent in line with inflation.

The party also believes that housing is an issue that will tilt support in the 25 councils

where the housing authority has so far refused to introduce a scheme allowing council tenants to buy their homes.

The elections may resolve the political limbo that has bedevilled Glasgow for three years during which the city has belonged to no one political party. The last elections introduced a strong contingent of nationalists, and the conduct of business has ranged from French farce to the present working compromise.

The unpopularity of Labour and a housing scandal at the time of the last elections have both dimmed in the public memory and Labour expects to move back into power.

The Scottish National Party is not sanguine about its hopes. Last time the party did extremely well, holding power in several central Scottish councils and a total of 170 seats throughout Scotland.

By-elections since then have brought a net loss to the party of about a dozen seats and with its poor standing in the polls and general apathy towards its independence policies, it is lying low.

The old wrangle remains about whether the nationalist party should seriously concern itself with local government when its main argument is with Westminster, but the past three years has surely shown that no serious political party can stay aloof from the local mainstream.

In some districts the party intends sharply to increase its number of candidates, particularly in Kyle and Carrick, where nationalists have become closely associated with the campaign against nuclear waste dumping.

But after the crushing election defeat that removed nine nationalist MPs and 300,000 of their votes, the party can only hope that in those districts where nationalists have become closely associated with the campaign against nuclear waste dumping, there is a chance of an open field at the elections.

The voters, they argue, were not drawn towards the Tories and the Government's record. They were unimpressed by the Labour Party and its internal squabbles.

There will be about 200 Liberal candidates, and the party is confident of holding power in Inverclyde, where it has 13 of the 23 seats, and of continuing to hold the balance in Aberdeen. A party official declared: "Our strength will be as an alternative to the two party machines, which people can see are clogging everything up."

## Levy bc proposa 'could courses

By John Young

Controversial p the redistribution support for racing tained in a repo yesterday.

The proposals a site condemnation Commission of the Association, who racecourses would be subdivided at the smaller ones, would be a danger.

The report by board and Jockeys' Committee, under S. Plummer, suggests selective approach port of the land, allocation of prize.

It recommends 60 racecourses s graded into three. Only 12 in Category 1 would be eligible for capital assistance. Courses should be re-improved to racing rooms, stables. The of would not be eligible support.

However, the report says, the quality of the racing, rather than the racecourses, is the key factor. As many r says, should increased proportion of racing a including security services.

The report does the closure of arbitrary number of horses. But unless a big maintained at it will be a steady decline, it says.

Levy has used not merely protection for against insolvency of racing depend operating efficient racing, but success or failure.

Air Commodore yesterday that it talk of smaller able to improve, to attract special stricting them a profitable midweek.

The board has those courses to ally unprofitable was now using them and place lowest category. Leading a Racing's res.

Armed ga escapes with £80,000 there Out of

From Our Correspondent Glasgow

Strathclyde as a unit was called to help detect armed gang had office van and £80,000 in the G. of Glasgow.

The other were in bound the back of the. A few hours a broke into a sub-Moodiesburn will eastern outskirts hauled out the sal vehicle. It was contained at least

## Huge waves sank Scots trawler

Two huge waves caused a £200,000 Scottish trawler to sink off the Cornish coast with the loss of three lives, Mr. Derrick Pepperell, the West Cornwall Coroner, was told at Penzance yesterday.

A team of men came from Buckle, on the Moray Firth, and the accident brought the death toll of fishermen from the Scottish port to 16 within seven months.

Mr. Pepperell attributed the disaster to an unfortunate combination of circumstances. The trawler, the Bounteous, sank in 100 feet of water in relatively calm seas less than a mile off Mousehole, Cornwall, on January 4.

The jury returned verdicts of accidental death on Mr. Edward Phinister, aged 30, the skipper; Mr. Russell Hillier, aged 25, the cook; and Mr. Joseph Bowie, aged 26, a deck-hand. There were three survivors.

Mr. Pepperell said that what two of the survivors described as freak waves had struck at just the wrong moment for the Bounteous. One arrived just as a load of freshly caught mackerel was hanging from the starboard side, about to be landed on deck.

The giant wave appeared to have washed away fish boxes on deck. He added: "While the crew were trying to clear the boxes, another freak wave seems to have arrived."

"Again the water appears to have failed to run away, possibly because the scuppers were jammed. The combination of the water lying there and the net being suspended is the reason given by the witnesses for the ship capsizing. None has been able to offer any other explanation."

Search for ruins

A team from Lancaster University is excavating in Cockerthorpe, the birthplace of William and Dorothy Wordsworth, searching for medieval ruins.

## Shortage of chemists for industry

From Pearce Wright Science Editor Durham

Too few scientists are being trained in universities to cope with the expansion of work on occupational safety and on the toxicological testing of new chemical compounds for industry, according to a survey presented at the annual congress of the Chemical Society yesterday.

One reason is that most universities are not adequately staffed for teaching analytical chemistry. But the compilers of the report, Dr. E. G. J. Willing and Mr. W. J. Marmion, of the Chemical and Allied Products Industry Training Board, say that they were unable to discover precise figures for scientists either from employers or from official statistics.

Although the general pattern of employment for scientists was known, there was insufficient information about the various kinds.

The industry faced a 2 per cent drop in output; the price of its main raw material had trebled over the past four years and further increases were expected. Business was becoming more complex and that put a premium on the ability to solve problems and make difficult decisions.

The combined effect of those trends would be to reduce the manpower resources available to the chemical industry by as much as 20 per cent. More graduates would be needed to offset that loss.

New radio chain 'a landmark in broadcasting'

From Kenneth Gosling Cardiff

A new independent radio service with fresh techniques for strengthening links with the community is to open in Cardiff today after a launching ceremony at Cardiff Castle last night.

Speaking at the ceremony, Lady Plowden, chairman of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, and members of the public, through membership of the Cardiff Broadcasting Trust or involvement in a programme workshop, could play a part in helping to shape the new service.

Independent local radio had been at the forefront of the change in broadcasting from being a means of distribution to a means of communication.

"Now," Lady Plowden said, "Cardiff Broadcasting has taken a bold step further in establishing a new radio company structure which may prove, years from now, to be a significant landmark."

Of nine new companies to follow Cardiff, that for Inverness had similar organization plans; and the IBA had approval to bring independent local radio to 16 other areas.

When complete, probably by about 1983, the total number of stations would be 44, leaving about a quarter of the United Kingdom population unserved.

## Prince of Wales backing for technology group

By Roger Berthoud

The Prince of Wales has embraced the cause of intermediate or "appropriate" technology, to the extent of becoming patron for the next five years of the Intermediate Technology Development Group (ITDG), it was announced yesterday.

The group was founded in 1965 by the late E. F. Schumacher, author of *Small Is Beautiful: Economics as if People Mattered*. It has become well known abroad for its work in developing and helping to install cheap, small-scale, employment-generating (rather than employment-reducing) technologies in developing countries.

Both the Duke of Edinburgh and the late Lord Mountbatten of Burma became known for their long-standing interest in high technology. Growing royal interest in less capital-intensive technologies led to a visit to Buckingham Palace by Mr. Schumacher in 1973, shortly after the publication of his seminal book, during which he elaborated on some of his theories.

The Duke of Edinburgh has since made reference to those from time to time.

Last year the ITDG learnt that the Prince of Wales might be responsive to an invitation to see some of its development work at first hand, and last February 15 he visited the group's unit at the applied research section of Reading University.

It would be too crude to suggest that he will be "selling" the virtues of appropriate technology when he visits developing countries. But he will at least be in a position to allude to the benefits of creating cheap, small-scale, employment-generating activities that can be widely introduced by and within local communities.

The prince's interest in appropriate technology is no doubt in part a by-product of his policy of getting to know British industry through a programme orchestrated by the National Economic Development Council. To help to counter his "judges' evident failure to maintain, let alone create, employment, the ITDG has been fostering Local Enterprise Trusts.

There are now 16 of those trusts, which foster the growth of small enterprises in their neighbourhoods, and a further 45 are under discussion by local organizations.

A new focus for such initiatives will be provided by the establishment in London of a Schumacher Centre for Technology Choice, for which an appeal for film was recently launched.

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## A Rome outside the textbooks

From Phillip Howard

Hull is untidier on the ground than in the text.

In a stimulating paper to the meeting of the Classical Association at Hull yesterday Dr. Andrew Lintott, of Aberdeen University, examined what Roman imperialism meant on the ground behind the high-minded and legalistic jargon of power, politics.

Imperialism was the power the Romans exercised over peoples, whom they generally called their allies, in space they equated their empire, from the time of Polybius, with the known world. Dr. Lintott's argument is that the well known textbook categories into which that world was divided politically are not as simple or clear-cut as they seemed to us at school.

A province, after originally meaning an appointment, came to designate a tract of allied territory directly administered

by Rome. But that territory was often not strictly defined, while the governor's powers were expected to extend into neighbouring kingdoms and the land of other free peoples. He was also allowed considerable scope in dealing with neighbouring barbarians.

Client kings should not be used as clients in the technical sense. Theoretically they were friends and allies. In practice, they were treated as agents and subordinates.

The status of "free cities" was modelled on that of cities that had been declared free by the Hellenistic powers while remaining their vassals. Their freedom was conditional on their remaining loyal within the Roman orbit in time the province that regularly accompanied freedom became eroded, so only a few enjoyed freedom from tribute. Their freedom was of the Czechoslovakian or Afghan sort.

The natural state of that empire was taken by the Romans to be steady expansion. And external frontiers were left vague. Hadrian and his successors limited expansion.

Like later super powers, Rome still tried to exercise power over the peoples beyond them. Meanwhile the status of the peoples within the Empire was gradually assimilated, as it usually is. From the Roman (and the Russian) point of view, that is not an extension of power, merely an administrative reorganization.

Dr. John Landels, of Reading University, opened our ears to the arcane mysteries and alien sounds of ancient Greek music: the aulos, the double reed pipe that sounded half way between a clarinet and an oboe; the cithara, something like a guitar; and the stgape. He is the next best thing to Orpheus that we have left walking our discordant and muddy world.

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It would be too crude to suggest that he will be "selling" the virtues of appropriate technology when he visits developing countries. But he will at least be in a position to allude to the benefits of creating cheap, small-scale, employment-generating activities that can be widely introduced by and within local communities.

The prince's interest in appropriate technology is no doubt in part a by-product of his policy of getting to know British industry through a programme orchestrated by the National Economic Development Council. To help to counter his "judges' evident failure to maintain, let alone create, employment, the ITDG has been fostering Local Enterprise Trusts.

There are now 16 of those trusts, which foster the growth of small enterprises in their neighbourhoods, and a further 45 are under discussion by local organizations.

A new focus for such initiatives will be provided by the establishment in London of a Schumacher Centre for Technology Choice, for which an appeal for film was recently launched.

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IBM UNITED KINGDOM LIMITED, PC BOX 41, NORTH HARBOUR, PORTSMOUTH, PO6 3AU.

## HOME NEWS

### Land Bill 'a threat to allotments system'

By a Staff Reporter

Demonstrators carrying placards and waving garden implements visited the Department of the Environment in London yesterday to urge the Government to drop provisions in a Bill which they say threatens the allotment system.

Members of the Friends of the Earth and the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners handed a letter to Mr Marcus Fox, Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, addressed to Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State.

It informed him that gardeners were concerned about the poor level of provision for allotments, which were threatened by the removal of safeguards on the sale of allotment land.

The Friends of the Earth said that the allotment system would be dismantled by a change in the law proposed in the Local Government, Planning and Land (No 2) Bill.

They fear that the removal of Government supervision over the sale of land would enable local authorities to sell allotment land.

They have told Mr Heseltine that there are 121,000 people on waiting lists who could not get allotments because local authorities were not fulfilling their legal duty to provide sufficient to satisfy demand.

The letter stated: "Yet the Bill contains six clauses which would allow local authorities to fail even more abysmally in the provision of allotments."

Those clauses would enable local authorities to spend allotment funds on other services and make up their own rules, including rents, for allotment holders.

The letter, signed by Mr Czech Contoy, campaign director of the Friends of the Earth, urged the minister to drop those clauses and replace them with new ones tabled in the Commons by Mr Stephen Ross, Liberal MP for the Isle of Wight.

They include proposals requiring the Secretary of State to instruct local authorities to grant temporary allotment licences on vacant land, and the extension of the basic duty to provide allotments to inner London boroughs.

The minister was also asked to improve the Smallholdings and Allotments Act, 1908.



A Friends of the Earth supporter demonstrating yesterday with bucket, spade and cauliflower.

Backbench MPs are being urged by the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners to oppose the repeal of the requirement which that Act places on local authorities to obtain the consent of the Secretary of State to the use for

other purposes of any funds surplus to allotment requirements.

Mr Fox, after meeting the demonstrators, said that no Government would deliberately seek to do away with allotments. "I am horrified at the suggestion," he said.

## Mr Haughey remains enigmatic on Ulster

From Christopher Thomas Belfast

The Irish Government's enigmatic stance towards Northern Ireland remains, Mr Charles Haughey, the Prime Minister, demonstrated in the first significant interview given by him since he assumed the leadership in December.

He told *The Irish Times* that he has hopes of a united Ireland in his lifetime, but cut short any detailed explanation of his strategy. "For the moment I do not wish to say any more about these matters."

Mr Haughey said he believed there had been a considerable change in outlook and attitudes recently, particularly in the north of Ireland. "What is needed is a coherent, mature political approach and an abundance of patience, understanding and generosity all round."

He was anxious to meet northern politicians and leaders of opinion as often as possible. He would like them to think his door was always open.

He would be meeting Mrs Margaret Thatcher at the next conference of leaders of the European Community, but he thought it would not be possible to discuss the northern situation in any substantive way on that occasion. He hoped it would not be too long before there could be a full meeting.

He alluded to the imminent talks in Dublin between Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and Mr Brian Lenihan, the Irish Foreign Minister. The date is secret for security reasons.

Mr Haughey's interview was dominated by the economy, pay and industrial relations. The Government would work hard for a new national understanding in the coming year. He was not looking for a wage freeze.

"We will very shortly be starting a serious detailed process of discussion with the social partners about the economy, the conditions prevailing, and the form that a new national understanding might take."

It would be ideal if the farmers could be included.

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## 'Possible' that Mr Kelly broke jaw in a fall

From David Nicholson-Lord Liverpool

It was "unlikely, but not impossible" that James Kelly, the Merseyside man who died in police custody last year, received a double fracture of the jaw by hitting his chin on the ground, it was stated at the inquest on Mr Kelly yesterday.

Mr Henry Aley, consultant dental surgeon at Broadgreen Hospital, Liverpool, said the degree of force necessary to cause the fracture could have been caused by a hard punch or blow. The injury would not have markedly affected Mr Kelly's ability to speak fairly normally.

He said that evidence of an old fracture to Mr Kelly's jaw was immaterial and irrelevant to the fracture he suffered shortly before his death.

The inquest started two and a half hours late after it was disclosed by a doctor that Mr Kelly underwent an operation for a bilateral jaw fracture, suffered when he was hit in the face with a piece of wood during a fight in 1968.

The officers who arrested Mr Kelly, aged 53, of Huyton, Liverpool, have denied knowledge of how the fracture occurred shortly before his death.

Earlier Mr Bernard Sims, a dental expert and adviser to the Home Office, said that when he examined Mr Kelly's jaw he found fractures of both the left and right sides consistent with having been produced by "a single blow by or against an object of hard surface".

He agreed with Mr George Carman, QC, for the Police Federation and four individual officers, that the fracture could have been caused by a drunken man in a heavy stupor falling on the ground.

Mr Carman said: "If Mr Kelly had a fight at 11.30 or fell in a drunken state, he could well have been fighting with the police at 12.15."

Mr Sims replied: "Yes". The coroner also heard details of a medical report on Mr Kelly written on his discharge from the Army in 1947. That described him as mentally deficient, illiterate, backward and suffering from anxiety.

His illiteracy had cut him off from home, and that caused him worry and depression. Though cooperative, he controlled his aggressive feelings with difficulty.

## In brief

### Rugby player on harm charge

Gordon Doble, aged 30, captain of Wolverhampton Rugby Club, faced magistrates at St Leonards, Staffordshire, yesterday accused of causing grievous bodily harm to an opposing player, Anthony Higley, aged 23, who lost an eye.

Mr Doble, of Pendeford Avenue, Wolverhampton, was remanded on bail for three weeks. The offence is alleged to have taken place during the match between Wolverhampton and Stourbridge last December.

**Baby survives fatal motor accident**

Michael Walker, aged six months, escaped with head injuries yesterday when he was thrown out of a car when it crashed into a lamp standard at Hucksall, Nottinghamshire, killing the driver and injuring the baby's mother.

The baby bounced on the hard road surface. The driver was Mr Neil Marsh, aged 19, of Stanton Hill, Nottinghamshire.

**Tree kills man**

Mr Donald Drewery, aged 44, of Westholme Cottages, Melton Ross, South Humberside, a farm worker, died yesterday when a tree he was helping to fell caught fire and crashed down on him.

**Lassa fever ruled out**

Porton Down scientists yesterday ruled out Lassa fever as the cause of death of Miss Eva Oberholzer, aged 40, who died three weeks ago after a holiday in Kenya.

**Menigitis death**

Lesley Ann Rothwell, aged 13, of Waltham, near Grimsby, has died of meningitis, but Humberside health authorities said yesterday that there was no cause for alarm. She was taken ill at York.

**10 hurt in blast**

Ten people were given hospital treatment, one being detained, after they were struck by flying glass when an explosion damaged the front of a bakery in the market place at Ripon, North Yorkshire, yesterday.

**Immigration officer is criticized by magistrate**

Mr Kenneth Harrington, a London magistrate, yesterday criticized the immigration authorities for banning an accused American visitor from Britain before his guilt was established by the courts.

Mr Harrington, sitting at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court, Westminster, said: "It seems to me quite disgraceful. We do not live in a state, surely, where the immigration authorities can use their powers before a case has been proved."

He said to Mr James Douglas, the immigration officer who saw the American after he was alleged to have been caught trying to import a dog illegally:

## WEST EUROPE

### Catalan Parliament sits for first time in 41 years while separatists demonstrate outside

From Hry Debelius Barcelona, April 10

Members of the new Catalan Parliament sat for the first time in 41 years here today at a session which ignored separatist shouting outside.

Josep Tarradellas, the outgoing president of the Generalitat, the Catalan Government, made a veiled comparison with Spain's other newly-autonomous regions, the Basque country, then he congratulated "all the men and women... who made it possible to recover the freedom of Catalonia without violence."

He said members of the regional parliament have "an enormous responsibility... not to divide the country."

Outside the marble halls where previous Catalan parliaments had sat in the 1930s before being disbanded by a victory for General Franco, a few demonstrators shouted for the release of imprisoned suspected extremists.

They tried red banners and the flag of the advocates of independence—a flag with red and yellow horizontal stripes like the regular flag of the region, but with the addition of a star in a triangle.

The separatists had no voice inside, however. Their cause failed to win representation in the elections of March 20. There were dissident voices raised in the chamber, nevertheless, but for other reasons.

The Andalusian Socialist Party made itself known, although only two of the 135 MPs belong to that party. Señor José Acosta Sánchez, momentarily delayed a round vote on the acceptance of the constitutional rules for the Assembly with a protest that his party had not been consulted when the rules were drawn up.

Presiding over the inaugural session by reason of his age was Señor José María Follet, who is 81. He declared the Andalusian deputy to be out of order. He also called for a minute's silence for the "martyred president" of the Generalitat, Lluís Companys, who was executed by the late General Franco.

At another session later this month, the Parliament is expected to elect Señor Pujol as president of the Generalitat. His party has 43 seats, more than any other party, and he will be able to muster a majority with the promised cooperation of the Republican Left and the Centre Democratic Union.

In a meeting prior to the inaugural session, spokesmen for the various parties gave their unanimous, although informal, approval to a proposal by the Generalitat to ask King Juan Carlos to attend the investiture of the Generalitat, which is expected to take place in Barcelona before the end of this month.

After an afternoon recess, the Parliament met again this evening to choose the president of the Chamber and two vice-presidents. The presidency—a largely honorary post—was expected to be assumed by Señor Follet, the outgoing president of the Chamber, a minority party, as a result of a pact with Señor Jordi Pujol's dominant Convergence and Union Party.

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## Gromyko visit still on despite Paris doubts

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, April 10

Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, is to make an official visit to Paris from April 22 to 24, it was learned here today. It has not yet been officially announced, but the visit is expected to be a significant one.

There was some doubt as to whether the visit would take place after the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. There were also the negative results of the Paris talks between Mr Koryukov, a Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, and Mr Jean Francois-Poncet last February and the equally negative discussions in Moscow recently involving Mr Evgeny de Leusse, Secretary General of the Quai d'Orsay, and Mr Gabriel Robin, the political director.

Uncertainty was also expressed about French participation in the Madrid conference next autumn to make stock of progress on the Helsinki Agreement.

But the stiffening of the French attitude on Afghanistan and the fact that Moscow was prepared to talk about "every thing except withdrawal of the troops, never meant any refusal to keep communications open, however unproductive for the time being."

Mr Jean Francois-Poncet can be expected to do the job, the Paris talks between Mr Koryukov and Mr Jean Francois-Poncet last February and the equally negative discussions in Moscow recently involving Mr Evgeny de Leusse, Secretary General of the Quai d'Orsay, and Mr Gabriel Robin, the political director.

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## Rats move into Metro as cleaners stay away

From Charles Hargro Paris, April 10

The third attempt March 24 to reach a deal between the unions firms who clean the Metro failed after an hour a discussion yesterday. The cleaners want a 2% increase to continue a week-old strike.

Paper and refuse accumulate in the corridors of the Metro. The same day appearance as the London ground. In some stench is powerful as begun to appear.

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## ERSEAS

Documentary evidence  
urs US inquiry  
to Murdoch loan

Michael Leapman

When Mr Murdoch began bargaining with Boeing, he insisted that the Export-Import Bank would have to provide financing for Boeing 767 aircraft (the as yet unlaunched rival to the Airbus) at a rate competitive with 7.95 per cent, although the American loan would be in United States dollars.

Mr Murdoch emphasized this point repeatedly. When he and some colleagues and two Boeing representatives visited the bank on February 19 (the day of the White House memorandum), Mr Moore pointed out that the 7.95 per cent basket of currencies was not comparable with 7.95 per cent on a dollar loan.

The Australian visitors distasteful suggestion, says a bank memorandum, "pointing out that Australia had large energy resources and many other resources as well; that they expected Australia to have a strong balance of payments position and a strong currency in coming years and that they were not concerned by Deutsche Mark and French franc obligations."

The essential fallacy of that argument does not seem to have occurred to the bank's officials until later. Meanwhile Mr Murdoch applied powerful pressure to get his bargain-rate loan approved.

The next day he wrote to Mr Moore, again emphasizing his confidence in the strength of the Australian dollar.

On the same day he telephoned Mr Clarence Wilde of Boeing and made the same point, equally forcefully.

It was not until February 26, at a bank board meeting, that the logical flaw in the Murdoch argument was pointed out. Mr George Heidrich, deputy vice-president for the bank's Asia division, said:

"I would agree with your comment on Mr Murdoch's comment that maybe the Australian dollar will harden vis-à-vis ours and be a strong currency—they're enjoying rather a big boom over there now—but if it still seems to me that if it strengthens against the Deutsche Mark or keeps pace with it, it's a relative situation between what the Deutsche Mark and the dollar, United States dollar, are going to do, not what the Australian dollar is going to do."

Two days later Mr John Lang of the Treasury, which has to approve loans made by the Export-Import Bank, attended the meeting at which approval for the loan was given. He said:

"We would have hoped that matching the dollar rate at 9.25 per cent would be certainly acceptable to all logical and reasonable human beings, but we hear what you're saying—that the decision maker in this case (Mr Murdoch) is playing Mexican standoff (being stubborn) with us and wants an eight per cent rate. . . . We can't and don't feel it appropriate to even try and second guess (argue with) you on this."

So the loan was approved at the eight per cent rate for five Boeing 767s (the aircraft having a slightly smaller capacity than the Airbus). Loans for some smaller Boeing planes, totalling \$84m, were at 8.4 per cent.

Whether it was presidential influence, incompetence by bank officials or Mr Murdoch's bludgeoning tactics which secured the low rate is not made clear by the documents. The banking committee's investigator will in the next few days begin interviewing the principals—including Mr Moore and perhaps Mr Murdoch, who is at present in Australia—to try to make things clearer.

As for the White House lunch, all that has emerged from it in the way of leaks is that there was discussion of Mr Carter's children and that Mr Murdoch was disappointed with the food—hamburgers.

paper caters for  
gkong homosexuals

Correspondent

Neither the editor's name nor the address of the paper's office is yet given but there is a pledge that this information will be published later.

Both Peking and Taipei insist that homosexuality is neither practised nor tolerated by Chinese but police officials estimate there are at least 200,000 Chinese homosexuals and 1,200 Chinese male prostitutes in Hongkong.

The Pink Triangle demands that homosexuality should be permitted under the existing three conditions authorized in Britain:

1. The person must be over 21.

2. The person must be a British subject.

3. The person must be a resident of Hongkong.

4. The person must be a member of the armed forces.

5. The person must be a member of the police force.

6. The person must be a member of the civil service.

7. The person must be a member of the judiciary.

8. The person must be a member of the magistracy.

9. The person must be a member of the executive council.

10. The person must be a member of the legislative council.

11. The person must be a member of the judicial committee.

12. The person must be a member of the public service.

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Hopes for  
end of  
New York  
strike

From Our Own Correspondent

New York, April 10

The first hopeful signs appeared today of an end to the strike of New York bus and underground rail workers which began 10 days ago. It is hard to know, however, how far the optimistic tone of reports on the negotiations is due to despair and frustration at the growing difficulties which the strike-bound city is experiencing.

Economists calculate that businesses have lost \$600m (£270m) so far. Department stores, theatres and restaurants have all suffered a drop in trade, as has the Barmen and Bailey Circus, making its annual visit to Madison Square Garden. The baseball season began yesterday and fans of both the New York teams rely heavily on public transport.

Traffic has been sticky ever since the strike began but so far has avoided the scourge of "gridlock", which pessimistic traffic experts have predicted. They calculate that when a certain number of cars fill the city streets the whole system will come to a standstill and nothing will ever be able to move.

Mr Koch said he found the spirit of pedestrians as high as ever when he made his daily visit to Brooklyn Bridge this morning.

The reported breakthrough in the talks with the striking Transport Workers' Union came when the union agreed to consider some of the changes in working arrangements to increase productivity being sought by the MTA.

One of the rules is that before announcing his choice, the candidate must insist that he does not believe in balancing-the-budget and that he is looking for the most highly qualified man.

Mr Reagan makes these points every time he is asked.

He is asked more often than most because in 1976 he named his running mate before

## A wrong choice could cost him the White House

Will Mr Reagan compromise on  
his choice of running mate?

From Patrick Brogan

Washington, April 10

Today's game is nominating Mr Ronald Reagan's vice-presidential candidate. Only an act of God, or an act of egotism on his own part, can deprive Mr Reagan of the Republican nomination and so the question is whom will he choose for a running mate.

There are two sets of rules governing the game. The first is the age old arithmetic of balancing a ticket that has been practised by every candidate since General Washington, of Virginia, chose Mr John Adams, of Massachusetts, in 1788.

The other rules concern the personality of the candidate. Often enough, he will choose a running mate in his own image (Richard Nixon chose Spiro Agnew in 1968 and 1972), or an antithesis (Richard Nixon chose Henry Cabot Lodge in 1960).

The candidates chase men who are ideologically compatible unless, like FDR, they are so supremely self-confident that they care nothing for their vice-presidents, and they all pay lip service to the need for the Vice-President to be able to take over the Government.

One of the rules is that before announcing his choice, the candidate must insist that he does not believe in balancing-the-budget and that he is looking for the most highly qualified man.

Mr Reagan makes these points every time he is asked.

He is asked more often than most because in 1976 he named his running mate before

the convention—and then lost the nomination. He chose Senator Richard Schweiker, of Pennsylvania, a moderately liberal Republican who balanced

Conventional arithmetic has it that Mr Reagan must choose a member of Congress or at least a man who knows Washington intimately. This consideration led Mr Jimmy Carter, also a former governor who knew nothing of Washington, to choose Senator Walter Mondale, the ticket nicely.

He should also choose someone from the East or the industrial Mid-West, because that is where he is weakest, and he should choose someone less belligerently conservative than he is himself. Mr Schweiker fulfilled all these desiderata in 1976.

There are three right-wing members of Congress who are running actively for the vice-presidency. Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, Mr Jack Kemp, a congressman from New York, and Mr Philip Crane, from Illinois. Any of them would undoubtedly terrify away huge numbers of moderates who are so sick of President Carter that they are

seriously thinking of voting for Mr Reagan.

The game, therefore, is to judge whether Mr Reagan is prepared to compromise on his principles. Paris was worth a Mass and perhaps Washington is worth a Panama Canal treaty.

If he does compromise, the obvious choice as running mate is Senator Howard Baker, of Tennessee. He is distrusted by the far right because he supported the Panama Canal treaty, but his presence on the ticket would reassure independents and moderates across the country.

He is Republican leader in the Senate and would be of invaluable assistance to President Reagan in managing Congress. The snag, apart from his lack of extreme conservative passion, is that he has no clearly identifiable constituency.

He would not add much to Mr Reagan's own strength in the South and has no personal following in the North-East or Mid-West. He is liked and trusted equally across the country, not in any particular state or region. A running mate ought ideally to deliver votes for the candidate.

There are a few Republican governors, most conspicuously Mr Jim Thompson of Illinois, who could deliver their states and thus help Mr Reagan win the election, but their ignorance of Washington sharply reduces their utility as Vice-President.

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Hollywood scrabbles  
for tinsel share-out

From Ivor Davis

Hollywood, April 10

Hollywood's annual booty will be handed out on Monday night before a television audience of 60 million in America and many more millions throughout the world. The high class banquet is officially labelled the 52nd Annual Awards of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Those watching the Oscar ceremonies will tune in to the famous faces, the speeches, the triumphs, the stretch limousines, plastic smiles, some surprises and even tears.

There will, however, be no sign of the frantic behind-the-scenes battles that have been fought in Hollywood during the past three months. By the time the prize-giving goes public the war will have ended and the casualties cleared.

The other day, Mr Charles Powell, a leading figure in Hollywood advertising and publicity, estimated that each of the big film studios in Hollywood will have spent a minimum of \$300,000 (about £160,000) apiece to try to woo the 3,600 members of the academy.

They are the people who actually decide whether Dustin Hoffman in *Kramer vs Kramer* was a better actor than Peter Sellers in *Being There* or whether Jane Fonda in *China Syndrome* will add another golden statuette to her best actress collection.

The members vote secretly, of course, on an assortment of acting, directorial and technical categories and Mr Powell estimates that the powerful studios are this year spending well over \$600 to reach each voter.

It is probably considerably more if you add up every penny spent because many of the stars (surreptitiously, of course), their publicists, managers, agents (even their mothers-in-law) spend money to help win Oscars and nominations.

The "war chest" goes mostly to two small circulation daily "trade" newspapers in Hollywood: *Daily Variety* and the *Hollywood Reporter*, which, until the final ballots are cast, are far with full-page advertisements being voters' attention to the performance of a particular actor and actress or to a film.

This year the battle has also been taken into voters' homes. A Los Angeles cable company has been screening the nominated films so that the lazy voters, who cannot be bothered to attend a cinema screening, can tune in.

As part of the battle strategy many stars suddenly become available for interviews, especially to local newspapers. Peter Sellers, nominated for *Being There* and considered to have an outside chance of winning, over-favoured Dustin Hoffman, says he does not plan to show up in person.

In Hollywood there are book-makers' favourites and Sally Field, best known as a television actress, is expected to win for *Norma Rae*, over Jilly Clayburgh (*Starting Over*), Jane Fonda (*Marsha Mason*), and Betty Midler (*The Rose*).

But most agree that *Kramer vs Kramer*, well received last month in Britain, is likely to make a clean sweep with wins for Mr Hoffman, Meryl Streep (best supporting actress) and Robert Benton (best director).

# 'The West is already losing World War III' warns Richard Nixon.

As Soviet influence spreads unchecked, the former President of the United States, Richard Nixon, warns that the West could be defeated without even fighting a battle.

Exclusive serialisation of 'The Real War', Richard Nixon's blueprint for Western survival, starts this week in NOW! —the news magazine.



'The Real War' by Richard M. Nixon

# Every world leader will read it - you can read it first - in NOW!

farmers to  
it  
refugee aid

Correspondent

April 10

rest Thai farmers will on a new food supply of Kampuchean refugees begins at two tomorrow with the 150 tons of food-aid directly from

refugees can liberate the merchants, men" Mr Meecham, the director of Emergency Relief said today. He has

to buy food from farmers less than they pay to merchants, farmers receive two

as much as the pay them. The Thai has 20,000 agents a central buying and where produce or purchase for refu-

Family planning  
loses political  
support in India

From Our Own Correspondent

Delhi, April 10

Mr Sanjay Gandhi, the MP and younger son of the Indian Prime Minister, today indicated that family planning will not be advocated by his Youth Congress wing of the ruling party "so long as the people do not want it."

It was the compulsory sterilisation programmes which developed out of Mr Gandhi's family planning drive under the so called "five point programme" which alienated many people in northern India from his mother's Government during the 1975-77 emergency.

Mr Gandhi, on a tour of the Punjab, said his Youth Congress would concentrate on adult education and abolition of the practice of paying a dowry.

Mrs Gandhi's Congress Party election manifesto emphasized strictly voluntary family planning.

## OVERSEAS

## Andean Pact nations offer asylum to some Cuban refugees

Lima, April 10.—Five South American countries and Spain have agreed to accept some of the estimated 10,000 Cubans in the compound of the Peruvian Embassy in Havana, Señor Arturo García, the Peruvian Foreign Minister, said here today.

He told a press conference after an emergency meeting of the five Andean Pact nations that Peru had agreed to give asylum to 1,000 of the Cubans who poured into the embassy last week after the Cuban Government removed guards from the building.

The other pact members, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela, had agreed to accept an unspecified number of the refugees, while Spain would also take some, Señor García said.

Foreign Ministers of the pact countries would meet later this month in the Venezuelan capital of Caracas to continue discussions on the issue, he added.

Señor García said the use of embassies for political ends was a tragedy.

The Andean Pact nations stated in a communiqué that the Cuban Government had the main responsibility for solving the matter "in accordance with the principles and norms of international law."

The communiqué supported the right of people to seek asylum and appealed to the international community to help the refugees leave the island.

Cuba has said that the refugees, who are living in appalling conditions in the compound, can leave as soon as another country gives them entry visas.

The refugees have appealed to the United States, Spain and

## Japan decides spies will be prosecuted

From Peter Hazelhurst  
Tokyo, April 10

A paradise for secret agents for 33 years, Japan is now expected to enact its first post-war legislation to prevent Soviet espionage.

A spokesman for the ruling Liberal Democratic Party said the Government would soon introduce a Bill in the Diet (Parliament) to curb the activities of foreign agents in Japan. Under its terms, agents arrested on charges of collecting military secrets and sensitive material for a foreign power will, for the first time in three decades, be prosecuted in court and punished.

Spies who provide a foreign country with military secrets or confidential information about Japan's defence industry will face prison terms of between two and 15 years if the Bill is passed.

At present a spy cannot be prosecuted for espionage in Japan because sensitive political information of the kind covered by the country's post-war Constitution has invariably been provided to draw up legislation on the subject.

The Constitution stipulates that the Japanese people "forever renounce war as a sovereign right of the nation and the threat or use of force as a means of settling international disputes." To achieve this it stipulates that Japan must never maintain land, sea or air forces or any other potential for war. Under various interpretations of the Constitution it has been argued that anti-espionage legislation is unnecessary because Japan should not have to hide any military secrets.

Japanese newspapers have also opposed previous attempts to safeguard military and industrial secrets because they claim legislation could be abused to interfere with the freedom of the press agents and their local sympathizers have

## A conservative, dark-suited man puts some bite back into Cairo opposition politics

## Honest Mr Shukri begins rocking Egypt's top-heavy boat

From Robert Fisk  
Cairo, April 10

All week, the khamsheen wind has been blowing across Cairo, hailing the desert sand from the Sinai across Egypt's decrepit capital, and sending many breezes through the suffocating streets. It reached its climax after five days when it turned the skies dark over Cairo and covered the trees in a fine yellow powder that malevolently found its way into every house. Even in the formerly elite suburb of Helwan, the streets were given a ritual layer of sand. Only the party offices of Egypt's official Opposition seemed to take on an elegance in the storm.

They are housed in a small, nineteenth-century mansion set back from the Valley el-Ghadi Street behind a screen of palm trees. Today, the banners of two nations—cracked in the wind above the entrance. The black, white and red flag of Egypt hung to one side of the door, while to the other, the chequered flag of the National Council of Palestine, with their small green triangle, betraying the party's apparent sympathy for

the 1,200,000 Arabs of the occupied West Bank and Gaza. Mr Ibrahim Shukri ordered the flag to be hung outside his party headquarters when Mr El-Din Badr, the Israeli Ambassador, presented his credentials to President Sadat six weeks ago, and he has stubbornly kept it flying ever since. A symbol that the "same" political opposition encouraged by Mr Sadat might be growing some unexpected teeth.

"Israel," according to Mr Shukri, "wants to take everything in the peace process but give very little in return." The flag is a reminder both Mr Badr and Mr Sadat of their obligations.

No one, least of all Mr Shukri, could claim that the Socialist Labour Party is a serious threat to Mr Sadat's rule. The party, which holds more than 300 of the 388 seats in the Egyptian National Assembly, Mr Shukri's party picked up only 27 in the last election, a modest victory which the President no doubt regarded as acceptable for a party whose existence was presumably intended to prove only that

Egypt maintains the trappings of democracy.

It is turning out to be something more than that, however. Mr Shukri, who was imprisoned under the monarchy, is a quiet, silver-haired man approaching old age, a conservative figure in a dark suit and tie who does not look like the sort of man to rock the boat in Egypt's top-heavy Parliament. Yet, at first, does he sound like one either.

"We are trying to be a very honest Opposition," he says, but we are trying to achieve this for the people and not for Mr Sadat. We are at the beginning of a democracy. But after a few minutes, Mr Shukri relaxes his guard.

"We know that there would be trouble over Palestinian autonomy from the moment we read the Camp David accord," he says. "We realized that there were good and bad points about the paragraphs on Israeli withdrawal from Sinai and the rights of Palestinians. The letters concerning Palestinian self-rule were very vague and we said that there would be difficulties with Israel over this."

"The words we hear from Mr Badr and Mr Shukri, the Israeli Foreign Minister, are really unacceptable. They say 'No' when we talk about a Palestinian state. They say 'No' to Jerusalem as part of the West Bank. They say 'No' to the old borders of Israel. They increase their settlements in the West Bank. The Israelis always said to us that their aim was not just to have an ambassador in Cairo but to have normal relations between Israel and Egypt on all sides."

It is for this reason that Mr Shukri believes Mr Sadat should not have gone to Washington this week. The President should freeze the process with normal relations between Egypt and Israel. "He should not recommend discussions," Mr Shukri said, "unless we hear from Mr Badr and the others that they can discuss every facet of the peace agreement without preceding them with their refusal to Jerusalem and a Palestinian state."

Mr Shukri has advanced the same views in the party's newspaper *Al-Shaab*, which has also criticized the Government's inability to control inflation

and on one extraordinary occasion—carried an article accusing government officials of accepting bribes on a telecommunications contract. The newspaper has condemned Mr Sadat's proposed Law of Shame, which will stifle opposition criticism; and it has told the Government that it has no business offering arms to King Hassan of Morocco to combat the Polisario guerrillas because Egypt should not be encouraging Arabs to fight each other.

Mr Shukri is prepared to tread still nearer the edge of acceptable political opposition. Mr Sadat, he says, should no longer lead the National Democratic Party because this dissuades people from joining smaller political groups. The President, he says, should be "father of the family."

"At present, we are still very near to one-party system. We do have our newspaper and so far we have been able to write in it whatever we want. But every week we are performing a tightrope act over what we say."

## Sadat offer to extend target date

Washington, April 10.—President Sadat of Egypt has indicated he is prepared to extend negotiations with Israel on Palestinian autonomy beyond the May 26 deadline as long as the main issues have been settled.

Speaking on television today after two days of meetings with President Carter, he expressed cautious optimism about the outcome of the talks. "The main issues have been settled," he said, "and we are now in a position to achieve a breakthrough within a short time."

He said the obstacles facing the talks were not as great as the rift between Egypt and Israel before the 1978 Camp David meeting.

"We must persevere," he said. "We shall overcome."

Mr Sadat was prepared to be flexible over the target date but insisted to achieve a breakthrough by that time would be very serious.

He said Israel was responsible for the present deadlock in the talks and whether the target date was met would depend on Israel's attitude.

If necessary, he would be ready to attend a new, three-way summit in Washington with Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, and President Carter.

Mr Sadat also said that Israel's policy of establishing Jewish settlements on occupied Arab land was against the spirit and the letter of the Camp David accord.

But he would not abandon the Egyptian negotiations if Israel continued to authorize the settlements.—Reuters.



Chadian refugees cross the Chari river in dugout canoes to seek shelter in Cameroon.

## Chad rebel force hit from rear

Ndjamena, April 10.—Troops headed by Colonel Wedal Abdelkader Kamougue, the southern leader, fought the battle of the Chari capital today, shelling the rear of Mr Hissène Habré's forces entrenched in Ndjamena's African quarter.

The southern army fire rocked the deserted city, contrasting with a full-on fighting between Mr Habré's forces and those of President Goukouni Oueddei, his main opponent, in the European sector.

The government forces were nowhere near the total collapse which President Goukouni had tried to bring about over the weekend.

Mr Edeem Kodjo, of Togo, the secretary-general of the Organisation of African Unity, said, however, that even if the war was imperfect, it was an improvement on the previous position.

Mr Kodjo left the embattled city yesterday after meeting both President Oueddei and Mr Habré. He said that some hope existed for a "cold" truce to the hostilities. But observers here believed that such a truce would be shattered by the entry of the southern forces.

The transitional Government of Chad headed by President Oueddei has decided to crush the armed rebellion of Mr Habré and his supporters, according to a Libyan radio broadcast, quoting Mr Mahamat Nue Adam, the Government's Secretary General.

Mr Adam is reported to have

been sent to Tripoli by the transitional Government to inform the Libyan authorities on the situation in Chad.

The radio, monitored in Tunis, added that Mr Adam had said that his Government rejected any reconciliation forum other than Lagos. He was referring to an agreement signed last August in Nigeria by 11 belligerent factions in Chad aimed at bringing peace to the troubled former French colony.

Mr Adam arrived in Tripoli today and has already had a meeting with the Libyan Foreign Minister, the radio said.—Agence France-Presse.

business activities in Iraq, the most of any EEC member.

Officially the Government has not gone further than saying it is studying the situation in the light of a call for solidarity from Mr Richard Goodwin, the American Ambassador in London.

Iranian oil supplies fall to only 2 per cent of 1978's crude imports last year, after nearly 14 per cent in 1979.

Reverend recalled: Norway announced that it is recalling its ambassador to Iran in response to President Carter's appeal for support.

But Mr Knut Frydenlund, the Foreign Minister, made it clear that the ambassador is being recalled for consultation and the move does not entail a break in diplomatic relations.—Reuters.

Credits stopped: After studying Mr Carter's request for sanctions against Tehran, the Japanese Cabinet announced that Japan will not provide new credits or loans to Iran (Peter Hazelhurst writes from Tokyo).

Responses delayed: The New Zealand Government is expected to reject an American request that it withdraw its ambassador to Iran, sever diplomatic relations, and cut trade ties, observers said in Wellington.

Indian unease: The Indian Government expressed its unease yesterday over Washington's reference to possible resort to military action against Iran. (Richard Wigg writes from Delhi.)

## INSEAD

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## Tanker survivors fill few gaps for investigators

From Eric Marsden  
Johannesburg, April 10

Insurance investigators in Durban today began inquiries into the loss of the 239,000-ton oil tanker *Albaha*, which blew up and sank 350 miles east of Durban a week ago. They now face the task of identifying the 38 survivors who were landed in Durban yesterday by helicopter from a cargo ship which had rescued them.

Representatives of Lloyd's Register in Durban have been asked to undertake a technical investigation into the disaster by the Liberian Bureau of Maritime Affairs. The *Albaha* had a Liberian flag.

The investigators appear to have a hard task judging from the colourful but uninformative recollections of crew members interviewed by the press at their hotel. The Chinese captain, the surviving crew said all they remembered was "boom, boom, fire, lifeboats".

Some of the 19 Indians and three Portuguese were rescued by the Chinese ship *Dujiangyan*, which they said they had been awakened before dawn on April 3 by two loud explosions. As they scrambled on to the deck they realised they were fighting for shelter as flames began to engulf the tanker. A

lifeboat was lowered but some of the crew panicked and jumped overboard.

Others were calmer and an SOS was sent before the ship was abandoned. It sank completely within half an hour of the crew's escape.

It was later found that six of the crew were missing, presumed drowned. A steward said he did not know what had happened to them because he could see nothing but flames against the sky. The missing men were two Indians from Calcutta and four Hongkong Chinese.

The search for them was abandoned after 36 hours.

Captain J. Neff, marine superintendent for the ship's agents in Durban, declined to comment on what caused the explosions on board. It has been suggested that they occurred during jacking of the tanker's slop tanks.

The wreck of the *Albaha* lies in 2,200 fathoms, according to a spokesman for the underwriters. It was last heard of on March 5 while passing Dubai.

Its owners, Wallam Ship Management of Hongkong, have rejected suggestions that it may have been involved in the operations of a "scuttling ring".

## Philosopher held by Czech police who stop lecture

Czechoslovak police broke up another philosophical lecture in Prague on Wednesday night, the London-based Palach Press Agency reports.

Dr Julius Tomin, a Czech philosopher and an organizer of the underground "Patocica University" was about to start a lecture on Aristotle when the police burst into the hall, private bar where the lecture was held. Dr Tomin was manhandled and dragged to a detention centre.

Shortly after the recent escape from Czechoslovakia of Dr William Newton-Smith, a philosophy fellow in philosophy at Balliol College, Oxford, the police informed Dr Tomin that they would prevent, if necessary by force, all future lectures.

Dr Tomin and other lecturers always emphasized that their activities were open and in conformity with the law. During the past few months Dr Tomin's contacts with the University of Oxford became regular and once a month an Oxford philosopher gave a lecture.

One of the 15 students attending Wednesday's lecture, Mr Jan Bednar, the 24-year-old son of Mrs Ota Bednarova, a journalist serving a three-year jail sentence for defaming the government, was detained together with Dr Tomin.

## Embargo seen as unlikely to impress Iranians

Continued from page 1

words, then would be likely to result from an Iranian shut-off. The German complaint that this mechanism offers inadequate protection.

The EEC's exports to Iran last year earned some £1,000m, or about 1 per cent of the Community's total export earnings. They were running at about a third of the 1978 level. An embargo on exports to Iran would thus be fairly painless economically for the Community.

Until the fall of the Shah the EEC was the source of more than 40 per cent of Iran's imports. Iran's Revolutionary Council, however, has been content to allow the economy to grind to a virtual halt, and imports from the industrialized West have declined to a trickle.

The conclusion of EEC officials in Brussels is that while it would not be too painful to impose a trade embargo on Iran, it is unlikely such action would impress a Government driven more by ideological than economic considerations.

Industrial lobby: Italian industrialists are lobbying Government and Parliament against making a commercial break with Iran to the extent requested by the United States. (David Young from Rome.)

Italy is felt to be more exposed than other countries to possible Iranian retaliation as it has about 1,500 citizens engaged on industrial projects and

attacked Pearl harbour, only their Ambassador was told to leave within 24 hours and other diplomats were given two weeks to depart, but all our diplomats, including one who has a 12-day-old baby, were told to get out in 24 hours," he said.

Algeria has agreed to look after Iranian interests in the United States, Mr Qorbazadeh told a press conference yesterday.

Next readiness: The state radio announced that a naval unit was dispatched today from its bases in the southern ports of Abadan and Khorramshahr in the Gulf "to prove their readiness for confronting any invasion of our sea borders."

Iran has demanded that Iran evacuate three Gulf islands which the Shah's forces seized in 1971 close to the mouth of the key Hormuz Straits.

When the Japanese

## Energy deal with China lifts NSW Premier

From Douglas Aiken  
Melbourne, April 10

Mr Nevill Wran, the Labour Premier of New South Wales, appears to have achieved a remarkable success during his visit to China.

At the start of this week he became the first Australian Prime Minister to be granted an audience with Chairman Hua Guofeng.

The meeting lasted almost an hour. Mr Wran said afterwards that the main topics of discussion had been energy, trade and the "sister states" link established recently between the southern Chinese province of Guangdong (Canton) and New South Wales.

No doubt the fact that New South Wales supplies 50 per cent of Australia's exports to China is one reason for the courtesy with which Mr Wran has been received. It also seems likely that the Chinese, conscious of their energy problem, are looking towards New South Wales and its vast supplies of seaming coal.

Mr Wran is reported to have clinched a \$A80m (\$40m) deal to sell coal to China. It is also expected that Australia will be placed high on the list of recipients of Chinese oil exports.

Mr Wran has announced in Peking that New South Wales will be exporting two million tonnes of seaming coal to China each year. He is continuing negotiations to sell colong coal to south China.

After meeting a senior executive of the Chinese oil industry, Mr Wran criticized Australian oil companies for rejecting a Chinese offer to sell oil in 1975.

Leading Australian companies, such as Colonial Sugar, Broken Hill Proprietary and Ampol, are searching for oil in the South China Sea.

At the moment, New South Wales exports 25 million tonnes of coal a year, the most in Japan. The state has the world's largest known reserves of seaming coal and a new guaranteed export market would mean a huge development throughout the state's coalfields.

Mr Wran is expected to have discussions with the Federal Government when he returns to Australia as part of a plan to force Australian oil companies to renegotiate their agreements to include China. With his success in China, Mr Wran has possibly embarrassed Mr Malcolm Fraser, the Prime Minister. Mr Fraser has been enthusiastic about his public statements about Australia's relations with China, but he has not been shown the same respect as Mr Wran.

## Syrians go on alert in Lebanon

Continued from page 1

were seen in political circles as a hint that the Israeli soldiers may soon launch attacks from their newly established bases in south Lebanon.

An American concern was shown this afternoon when Mr William Brown, the United States Chargé d'Affaires, met Mr Ezer Weizman, the Lebanese Minister of Defence. He reported to Washington immediately.

It is understood that American concern has been increased, because the latest information has shown that the Syrians are the most sensitive people in the Middle East.

On Sunday, Mr Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, is due to go to Washington to talk with President Carter about Palestinian autonomy.

The United Nations has also registered another strong protest to the Israeli army about the incursion.

Adding to the tension in Lebanon were reports that Syrian troops based in the country have also been placed on the alert after the Israeli incursion.

There was still uncertainty tonight about the real intentions of the Israelis.

Artillery fire: Israeli artillery was reported to have fired on the port of Sidon today as the Lebanese Government launched diplomatic efforts to avert fresh bloodshed.

Student riots: In the second day of a student riot in a suburb of Ramallah, north of Jerusalem, an Israeli policeman was injured (Moshe Brilliant writes from Tel Aviv).

Indignant students said the students marched through the streets chanting "we'll give you another Misgav Am" thus identifying themselves with the Arab terrorists who attacked the kibbutz.

# ENTERTAINM

## A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a clock with a sunburst design, set against a dark background. The clock face is illuminated, showing the hands and numbers. Below the clock, there is a dark, indistinct shape that appears to be a shadow or a reflection.

and Pudovkin to—well, who? Only one new Soviet director, Tarkovsky, has achieved world recognition in the last decade . . . .

Mr Christie chooses, conveniently, to forget Sergel Paradjanov, for many the greatest living Soviet director, who was politically indiscreet, consequently imprisoned in 1974 on trumped-up charges, and is now condemned to live inactive, a person outside the law. (Next week, as it happens, *The Times* will publish a remarkable, recent interview with Paradjanov.) He has forgotten, too, . . . Elemis Klimov, *Agonia*, a film by a reliable witness to have been the most innovative Soviet film for decades, is shelved, apparently in permanence; or Klimov's young wife, Larissa Shepitko, killed last year in a car accident, who saw practically every one of her films delayed and frustrated; or Vasil Shukshin, who so far has produced only one, *The Red Snowball Tree*, with its portraits of real people as they really are, has never been seen in its complete form.

The worst is that Mr Christie is for certain neither a particularly astute nor a would argue no doubt, that if he wrote things that did not please his Soviet guests we would not be able to see the films at the NFT. If you play with Russians you play according to their rules, and in this game all in. In this connexion, there is reliable evidence that the reason *The Times* is no longer invited to cover the Moscow Film Festival is because its film critics have been too harsh on Paradjanov never existed, but Paradjanov does exist; and so did the rest; and so did the great Dovzhenko, still not comfortably accepted by the Soviet; and the rest, and the rest, which is perhaps why he too is absent from Mr Christie's list of pioneers.

There is a further chance to see *Town Bloody Hall*, a record by D. A. Pospelovskiy and Chris Leggett, and a film, *Confrontation* between Norman Mailer and a group of pioneer feminists, with Germaine Greer in the van. The event has rather the feeling of the boxing ring, though at least a subtle touch of mutual enlightenment, which is too. The body blow is struck by Mailer who exhorts her to "act like a lady". Nine years after, the event is already a period piece, with its evidence of the sort of surviving forces upon which the militants of the women's movement

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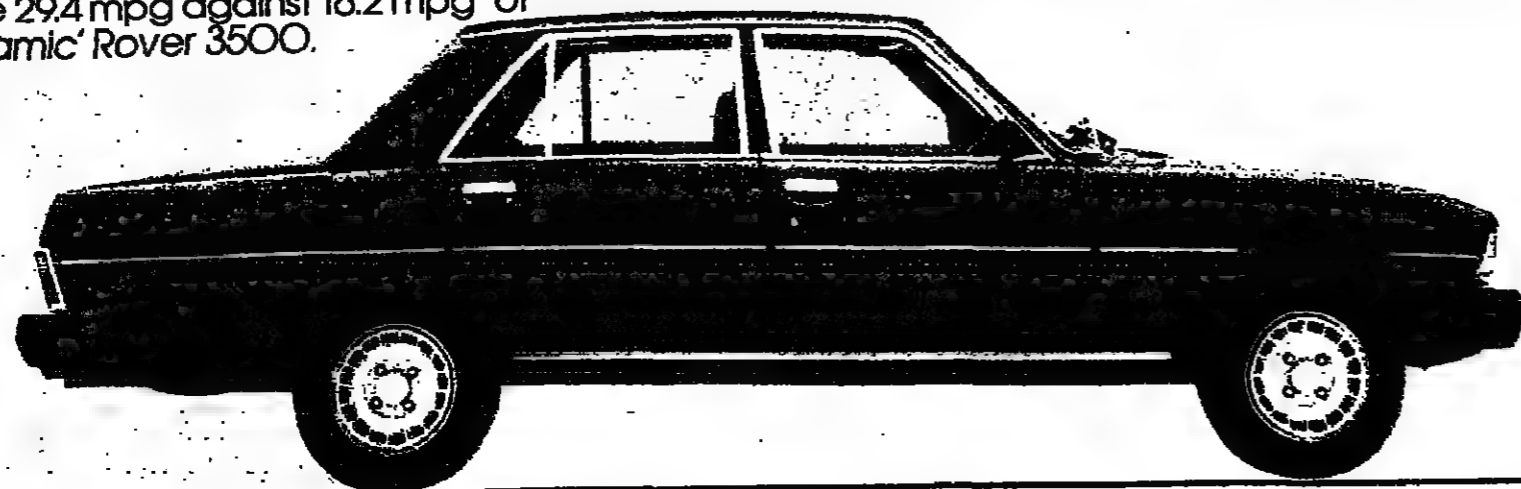
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## THE WRONG STRUCTURE

What has erupted over the Commission for Racial Equality is a petty squabble that attracts no more than attention. It is entirely clear that a new Government would wish to make some appointments to such a Commission when the current one comes to the end of its term of office. There are individuals who can be recruited to represent the minorities in Britain, not wrong in principle, but the changes a bit. A better public in mind would have been the names of adequate representatives could have been at the same time as the departures of the Home Office has the on the top, but that unique event, is there more to it than that? The episode illustrates the basic weakness of the official race machinery in Britain: members who are not appointed are known to be particularly concerned. The Commission is a highly visible, strategy on behalf of minorities. The decision therefore attracted racism among the minorities as an unfortunate event, just as the Bristol riot, it would imply to fasten on to and to conclude that it had once again hampered the handling of race. But the problem is because the militant to their task of the members is not in fact with at least part of mission's responsibility.

The Commission was established to replace the old Race Relations Commission and the former Relations Commission is both a law enforcement and has a duty to take action to foster racial harmony. The trouble is that the Commission cannot be combined in the

one body. An organization that is to be active in fostering racial harmony is bound to engage in a certain amount of campaigning, exercising pressure and cajolery upon public authorities and private groups. A law enforcement agency must adopt a different style if it is to command public confidence. The purpose of the law on race relations is not to make people of different backgrounds get on well with each other, which would be beyond the scope of any legislation known to man, but to provide safeguards for minorities against certain forms of discrimination. It needs to be enforced, as do other laws, in an impartial spirit. Otherwise there will be such resentment among the majority community that racial tension will be worse than before.

That is why a militant style is not fitting for the Commission for Racial Equality so long as it has responsibility for law enforcement. But the basic weakness is that no body should be asked to perform both functions. The Labour government refused to take this point when it passed the Race Relations Act of 1976 and the present Government is in danger of making a similar mistake. The Home Office is scurrying around in the hope of finding replacements for the departing members before the end of the month without any apparent appreciation that there will be recurring problems so long as the structure is left unchanged.

What is required is a fresh consideration of the tasks that government ought to perform in this field. First, there is the task of law enforcement, which should be left to an organisation with no other function. Then there is a case for a national body that would offer advice, stimulate and possibly conduct research, and train and sustain those concerned with fostering good race relations at local level.

These responsibilities might be divided or might be performed by a private organisation that would receive a grant from public funds. But an agency that was responsible for all these tasks would probably perform

## Towards the Dalai Lama's return

From the President of the Tibet Society of the United Kingdom

Sir, I fear that your leading article on April 8 entitled "Moves for the Dalai Lama's return" is too euphoric. Of course the Chinese would like their occupation of Tibet to gain a shadow of legitimacy through a return there of the Dalai Lama. This hope would remove from the standard ground which the Chinese and aspirations of Tibetans cling. And even talk of its possibility may dull realization in the West of communist oppression in Tibet. But the Dalai Lama would be a virtual prisoner, as has the Panchen Lama; and he has made it clear that there is no question of his return while conditions in Tibet are even remotely like they are at present.

There is a good deal of information available as to those conditions. Agricultural production has increased, but most of it is siphoned off for China's own purposes. Whereas in the old days there was normally a sufficiency of food in Tibet, Tibetans are now restricted to rations, which vary a little between areas but are about 1lb of barley a head a day. For this famine diet all of them, even grandmothers of 84 and little children, have to work inordinately long hours in the fields, and then endure political indoctrination and confession meetings at night.

Their work is also removed and they live in a bitter climate in cotton rugs. All their images and household possessions were seized long ago. This regime has been imposed on them as a matter of policy for years. No wonder they look bitter, tired and depressed. The Chinese administration is all-pervasive; Tibetans fill some positions but only cosmetically.

The recent relaxations amount to little. Religion is no longer actively persecuted. Travel inside Tibet is no longer forbidden. Some western visitors and journalists have been taken on closely chaperoned tours, but unless they speak Tibetan they cannot visit Tibetans picked for them by their hosts.

Tibetans have just begun to be allowed to travel to relatives in India, provided they leave their families behind as hostages. A few Tibetan exiles visited their villages in different parts of Tibet in 1979 and have brought back the tale of a brutal regime. But the decision which the Dalai Lama sent to Tibet last year "to assess conditions" found food scarce everywhere, although a little better in the towns. Life in the villages and among nomads was "shocking" and the people generally were scared to death of the Chinese. But their religious faith and their sense of unity remained strong.

There is no evidence at all that the Chinese really contemplate loosening their grip. As a spur to them, the Dalai Lama has made an impracticable demand for an international supervised plebiscite on whether the Tibetans are "happy" under Chinese rule, while saying last month that he was satisfied this was not so.

What he appears wisely to be hoping for is that steady pressure by the Chinese, perhaps with the carrot of his eventual return ever dangling in the distance, may lead to some gradual improvement of conditions for his people. Greater knowledge in the West of those conditions, and appreciation by the Chinese of this knowledge, will increase our sympathy for China and in other fields, may help his efforts.

Yours faithfully,  
ALGERNON RUMBOLD,  
Shortwood,  
West Clendon,  
Surrey,  
April 8.

## Violent youth: the influences

From Mr A. D. Mitchell

Sir, From all the controversy surrounding the Bristol riot, the one element that appears to have been missing has been an outright condemnation of the rioters. From all quarters we have heard about unemployment, poor housing and frustration, valid excuses certainly, but hardly unique either to Bristol or to young West Indians. One can hardly help but feel that had the rioters been a group of football supporters, no such pleas of mitigation would have been accepted and the condemnation from both left and right would have been immediate and thoroughgoing.

Could it be that the laudable desire of our leaders to create a multi-racial society has blinded them to the true nature of what was primarily a serious and violent breach of law and order?

Yours faithfully,  
A. D. MITCHELL,  
49 Queens Road,  
Kenilworth,  
Warwickshire,  
April 5.

From Mr David Holbrook

Sir, Over the last decade some of us have been warning about the effects on consciousness of a massive assault on human values. Through the powerful influences of film, television, "pop" and other media people have been subjected to the idolization of violence and aggression, as solutions to the problem of life. I recall a letter in *The Times* about the possible influence on youth of a certain film in which the anti-hero represents an idolization of violence, and an article of my own in which I warned of imitation in this realm.

Our intellectuals have indulged in their own cults of hate, from full-page advertisements in *The Times* calling for soft drugs to be legalized, to favourable reviews of stage shows in which the most fundamental of our values have been subjected to insult and inversion. The root of my own objections are in the thought of the effect some of the powerful media might be having on the kind of disturbed child I have taught in the past. Yet to my dismay, intellectuals on the whole have denied that what happens to consciousness can have any deleterious effect on society while they must be free to indulge in any debasement.

Now, a new feature appears in our life—the youth riot. The whole of London's Underground system is brought to a halt by an outbreak of destructive rage. In a provincial city there is rioting and destruction—an area, significantly, noted for its "red light" activities and its drug traffic. People are stunned by

these new developments. But they are what we forecast, those of us who are aware of the deeper effects of the new cultural barbarism. Our nihilistic culture has created a new mental sickness, not least among the young, and especially the socially deprived young. Life has no meaning except immediate sensual satisfaction, and the only possible stance is one based on hate: this has been the sinister message. (It is interesting to note that in Germany the "pornotopia" euphoria has now given way to deep cynicism and apathy.)

Yet during this period our intellectuals have not only refused to accept that what happens to consciousness is important (not least because they wanted to indulge in mental rage themselves); they have also opposed and suppressed debate, treating those who raised a warning voice like pariahs. Now we are reaping the whirlwind of the pseudo-revolution of the seventies, and the victims, as usual, are the poor and weak; and those who have to keep order. The political implications are extremely grave.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID HOLBROOK,  
Langacre,  
Haverhill Road,  
Stapleford,  
Cambridge,  
April 3.

From Dr F. W. Stoyke

Sir, Vociferous cries of "deprivation" as the root cause of the Bristol disorders are heard on all sides.

Will the same voices be raised now about "Scarborough" and to what cause will the violence of the motor-cycle mobs be attributed—affluence?

Yours faithfully,  
F. W. STOYKE,  
10 Thornleigh Park,  
Bangor,  
Northern Ireland,  
April 8.

From Mr W. S. Holley

Sir, We in the North-east recall with some bewilderment that one of the reasons given by INMOS for not siring its first production unit in Washington was that the cultural climate existed in the Bristol area.

Yours faithfully,  
STEPHEN HOLLEY,  
General Manager,  
Washington Development Corporation,  
Usworth Hall,  
Stapleford,  
District 12,  
Washington,  
Tyne and Wear,  
April 3.

## Hostages in Iran

From the Master of Selwyn College, Cambridge

Sir, In this country the word "student" has a civilized meaning, to describe someone struggling to diminish his or her ignorance of the world. In the case of the Iranian students in Tehran some criminals have for several months kept a number of innocent people prisoner. You and the BBC keep referring to the captors as students. Are we to suppose that good books are much in use at the embassy in Tehran? Why do you corrupt so fair a word?

Yours sincerely,  
OWEN CHADWICK,  
Selwyn College Lodge,  
Cambridge,  
April 6.

From Mr M. A. H. Katozian

Sir, It is with great sadness, even despair, that we have received the news of the collapse of the long and delicate negotiations for the release of the American hostages in Iran. The American government, and the consequent reaction of the American people, to this unfortunate development. From the beginning of this episode we have sympathized with the sufferings of the hostages, whose only "crime" seems to be the fact that they are American citizens caught in a bizarre political entanglement.

But we have also emphasized that—in its practical aspects—the subject is extremely complex, and one that acquires a new twist and turns every day. At present the whole issue has become the most important single instrument for the internal political power struggle between the broadly democratic and

the undemocratic tendencies in Iran, regardless of apparent ideological divisions within each of them.

Therefore, we hope and pray that no international action will be taken which would strengthen the hands of the undemocratic forces in the country, who seem to seek and welcome a deterioration of this situation purely for their own internal, not external, purposes.

Yours faithfully,  
HOMA KATOZIAN, Secretary,  
The Committee for the Defence and Promotion of Human Rights in Iran,  
Rutherford College,  
University of Kent,  
Canterbury,  
April 8.

From Lord Denham

Sir, Your description of *Death of a Princess* shown on ITV last night as drama documentary surely stretches a point too far. Drama, yes—Documentary, certainly no.

It is a sad reflection of this age that the story of two young people who defied the mores of their environment and paid such a terrible price for doing so, could be treated in such a trivial fashion. A true documentary on the problems now facing a resurgent faith in Islam in our contemporary world is surely of great importance.

Is it asking too much of ITV to now redress the balance by devoting some of their resources to a positive appraisal of this fascinating and relevant subject?

Yours sincerely,  
DENHAM,  
House of Lords,  
April 10.

## Cheaper air fares

From Mr A. J. Lucking

Sir, Mr Robert McCrindle, MP (March 24) is far too pessimistic about the prospects for lower European air fares. On these routes, even now fuel is only a small proportion of the total cost, probably about 15 per cent in the case of the shortest routes, such as London-Paris. For some airlines, "marketing" still costs more than fuel.

British Airways has started to attack the losses due to underpricing of first-class service. It is to be hoped it will renew its attempts to end the IATA arrangements which result in below-cost carriage of passengers making multi-sector flights. The true cost of carriage is nearer to Sir Freddie Laker's proposed point-to-point fares than the existing IATA charges, which are inflated to compensate for the losses incurred in carrying these "multi-sector" passengers, among other things.

## Money for music

From Mr Anthony Camden

Sir, Mr Norman St John-Stevens, Minister for the Arts, has intimated during the last few days that he will be seeing the major banks and oil companies in the near future, in an effort to persuade them to follow Gulf Oil's very creditable £250,000 sponsorship over seven years of the Scottish National Orchestra, which was announced this week.

The kind of collaboration between an oil company and the arts, I feel, has already been well demonstrated by Shell UK and the London Symphony Orchestra. We are now in our fourth year together, and the total sponsorship to the LSO is already

in excess of £250,000. This has enabled us to undertake a national tour with our Principal Conductor each year, and also, to organise the Shell/LSO Scholarship which has given young players of between 14 and 21 years the opportunity of playing in front of principal players of the LSO throughout the country.

So far, many hundreds of young musicians have benefited from this alliance which, I hope, will continue for many years to come.

Yours faithfully,  
ANTHONY CAMDEN,  
Chairman,  
The London Symphony Orchestra,  
19-25 Argyll Street W1,  
March 27.

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ANTHONY CAMDEN,  
Chairman,  
The London Symphony Orchestra,  
19-25 Argyll Street W1,  
March 27.

## Deaths in the Italian Alps

From Mr Simon Mapstone and others

Sir, On the morning of Friday April 8, six skiers, three of them British, died in Courmayeur, Italy. We would like to use your columns to give a short account of the death of one of them, who was our friend, more accurately than has so far been reported in the Italian or British press.

On that morning we were skiing as a party of six on piste 19 in Courmayeur. The piste was icy and the sixth member of our party, Richard Wood, became separated from the group. When we discovered he was missing, the five of us gave a short account of the death of one of them, who was our friend, more accurately than has so far been reported in the Italian or British press.

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We think it worth emphasizing that we were skiing at all times on the piste until Richard Wood's accident occurred. At approximately the same time four other deaths occurred in separate incidents in the surrounding area. Some of these other skiers may have been off piste but it seems likely that they were unaware of the danger that they ran. Indeed there were then no barriers of any description and the number of warning signs in the area was extremely small. None was visible from piste 19 itself.

These facts are at considerable variance with the reports so far published in the press. We consider them, however, to be accurate and that consequently the authorities in the Courmayeur must bear a considerable portion of the responsibility for the six deaths that occurred that day.

We are, yours faithfully,  
SIMON MAPSTONE,  
ROBERT MAPSTONE,  
JOHN RILEY,  
NIGEL HUTTON,  
Flat 22,  
35 Portland Place, W1,  
April 9.

## 'A Man Called Intrepid'

From Mr Cuthbert Skilbeck

Sir, As I commanded the so-called Camp X in the film *A Man Called Intrepid* for some two years I found the wholly fictional handling most distasteful, if not ludicrous.

I join Colonel Buckmaster (April 9) in deploring such a mixture of fiction with reality.

By all means let us have spy stories of fiction, but to traduce history so flagrantly and to use real names in a fictional story must be unacceptable.

Yours faithfully,  
CUTHBERT SKILBECK,  
c/o Dyer's Hall,  
11-13 Bowgate Hill, EC4,  
April 9.

## Cost of coronary care

From the Director and Dean of Postgraduate Studies, Welsh National School of Medicine

Sir, The recent distribution of £100,000 from government sources for heart transplants in order to save 10 lives, raises, once again, the lack of government support for other life saving procedures.

I refer to the provision of pre-hospital coronary care schemes described by Pantridge and Geddes in 1966 and used with great effect by them in Belfast, and by others in the United States.

It has been calculated that the cost per life saved is of the order of £200,000. This £200,000 channelled into this activity could lead to the saving of 400 lives.

I am,  
Yours sincerely,  
D. H. MAKINSON,  
Director and Dean of Postgraduate Studies,  
Welsh National School of Medicine,  
University of Wales,  
Heath Park,  
Cardiff,  
April 2.

## Attribution at Sotheby's

From Mr Jeremy Maas

Sir, May I use your columns to correct an error printed in your newspaper? It is an error that needs correction in that it is unhappy in its implications. It appeared in your report in today's issue (April 10) of the sale at Sotheby's, Belgravia, on April 9.

Writing of "The Railway Station", your correspondent stated that I "had reattributed it to Marcus Stone" on the day before the sale. In fact, I delivered my opinion in writing and by hand to Sotheby's, Belgravia, on March 25, 14 clear days before the sale. I did this with the deliberate intention of giving Sotheby's as much time as possible to consider my opinion.

Yours faithfully,  
JEREMY MAAS,  
J. S. Maas and Co Ltd,  
15a Clifford Street, W1,  
April 10.

## Getting in a flap

From Mr J. T. A. Howard-Drake

Sir, When Mr Hugh Morris (April 9) is discussing energy conservation with the design professions could he ask the locksmiths to revive the practice of putting flaps over keyholes? I am doing all I can to insulate my house but the only way I can stop draughts whistling through my doors is by the inconvenient method of stuffing the locks with paper.

Yours faithfully,  
J. T. A. HOWARD-DRAKE,  
26 Shinnels Field,  
Shipton-under-Wychwood,  
Oxfordshire,  
April 9.

## IT CASE OF MUTUAL INCOMPREHENSION

Lord Carrington and Mour will be pressed respectively Houses of Reassemble after the fact; but on the fact that the Foreign saying yesterday they said correctly over the Princess. Messages to Prince Saud Al Saudi Foreign Ministry regretting which the program caused in Saudi Arabia the Saudis had made a diplomatic of it, and since a value is set on the of good relations Arabia, an expression of offence had been appropriate. It is not same thing as apologising down on their silling, making obeisance, which a few MPs ours were quick to ministers of doing. eigh Office pointed out neither accept protest nor make an ite they had no y they neither had nor amme itself was in

## Y TO FERTILIZE THE TURF

In Britain is a sport only at a distance, almost three million use a betting shop or more often, and them it is enough would be horses some for them to run on, to communicate the the sixty-odd race-h make this possible their own way, pro-s and amenities that t competitors and mers to their meet-are assisted by the industry through Levy, which for some prosperous courses substantial proportion me. The takings of increasing, but not e demands made n signs that too many i too many horse- ing for the limited id funds available. It to suppose that the

## Longkong

British Caledonian given the right to fly Hongkong route and ic Airways, the Hongkong, was denied cation to serve that i this is the exercising rights over a colony an tradition there are tskong, most particu-agement of the latter o are genuinely and ised at the decision, t, among other points, "in all equity" (in the s chairman) benefi- tskong airline, from th on of the rights ough the application iple of reciprocity. It CPA is looking for e wrong direction. ago British Airways negotiating with their airline of the People's

bookmakers could supply more assistance than they do (less than a penny from each pound, they take), but the Royal Commission two years ago did not support the view that their profits are as large as punters think they have reason to believe.

Yesterday's report to the Jockey Club and the Levy Board firmly rejected the idea that the levy was best spent in protecting struggling courses from insolvency. It recommends new ways of distributing it so as to concentrate support on the most enterprising and successful courses and meetings. Capital grants and loans for new spectators' stands and other facilities would be available to those courses whose programmes and attendances best justified the investment. Contributions to prize-money (which account for 60 per cent of the board's expenditure) would reflect the

attractiveness of the racing provided.

The main danger today is of allowing the board's assistance to be spread too thin. It is true that if resources were concentrated too much on a few big courses, then owners might lose the incentive to rear and train enough horses to maintain the quality of the country's breeding stock. But the signs are that in spite of the high cost of ownership today, plenty of owners still find it rewarding. The proposed changes should encourage enterprise at all levels, though they would obviously increase the problems of some weaker courses. They should stimulate the search for sponsorship and other sources of funds. The example of point-to-point racing shows that an attractive spectacle can draw crowds without any investment in expensive facilities. The plan should sharpen the competitive spirit of the Turf.

Republic of China) counterparts over the BA rights to serve Peking. CAAC demanded Manchester as a destination in addition to London. This surprised the BA negotiators, who sought to know the basis of such a demand. The reply was that BA was seeking, in Peking, not a new and first destination in China but a second as it already served the well-known Chinese destination Hongkong.

That disagreement was resolved but there would appear to be no chance at all that the Chinese authorities will look favourably on the introduction of a second British-based airline and will extract, as CPA and the Hongkong government plainly cannot, a reciprocal benefit. Of course, such benefit will have been thought by Hongkong's loss in all proceeds from servicing either end of the route going to the United Kingdom. The belief that colonies, most especially those as sensitively placed as Hongkong, are for the exclusive use of the owner is surely a discredited and embar-

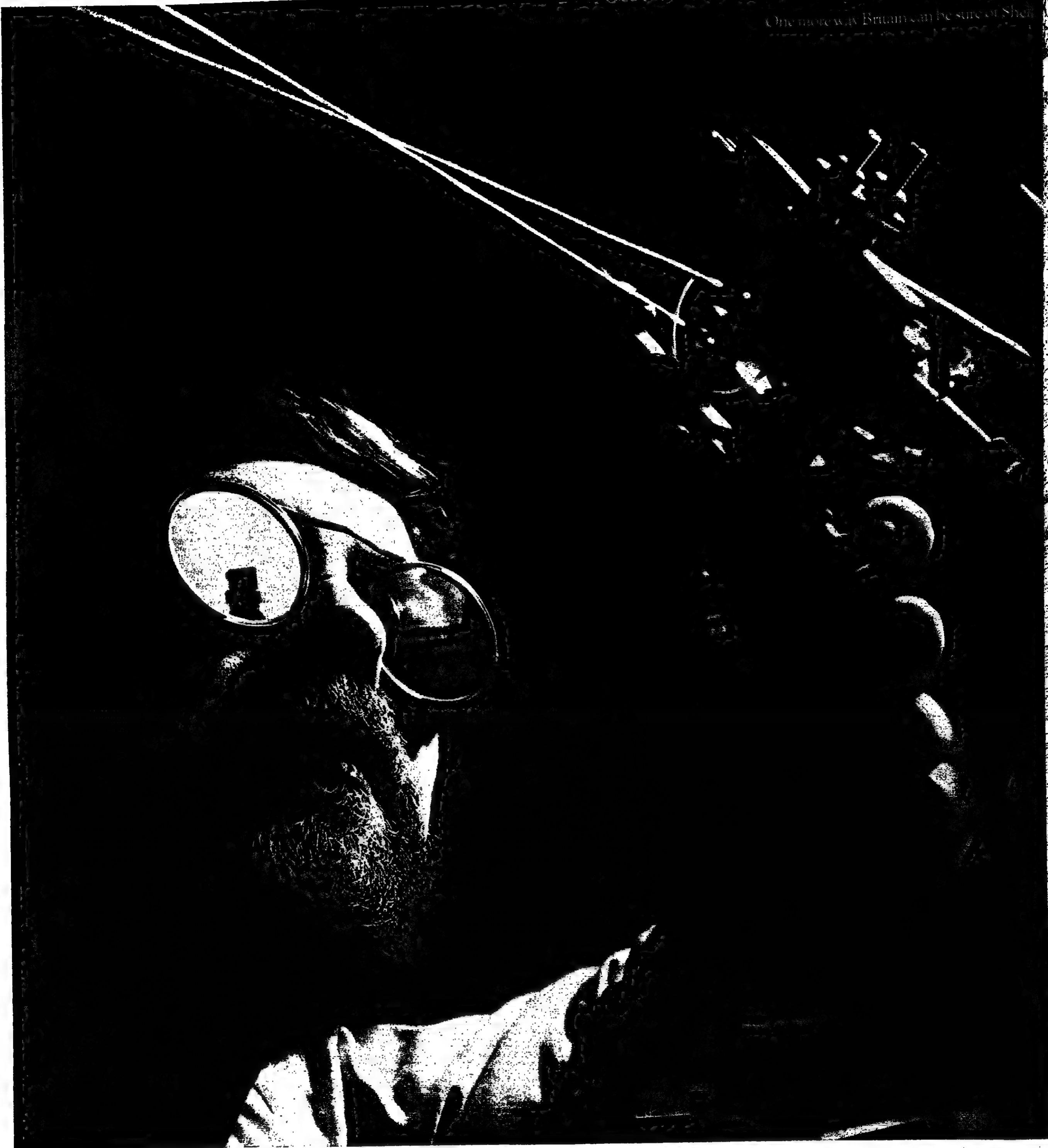
assing aftermath of the nineteenth century.

As British Caledonian was, but a few days before this latest decision, granted several new destinations in Europe it would seem that Hongkong must look elsewhere for support. In fact the newest guarantor of her economic future, the People's Republic.

It may be of interest to note that in a very few months CPA will be the only Pacific Asian airline not to serve Britain. Now Thai, Japanese, Chinese, Malaysians, Singaporeans and Filipinos may travel on their local airlines to Britain and Koreans plan to do so soon.

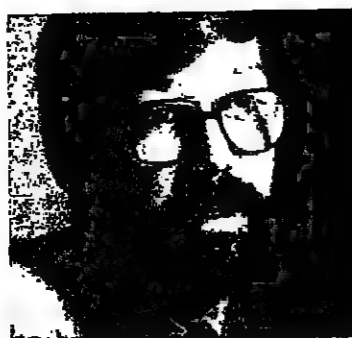
At that time Cathay Pacific will be the only airline in the world flying only wide bodied aircraft powered exclusively by Rolls-Royce engines.

J. V. MCCARTHY,  
42 G/F Jade Beach Villa,  
Horizon Drive,  
Chung Hom Kok, Hongkong.



# How can we squeeze more miles out of your gallon?

## Shell's laser 'eye' reveals some secrets.



Dr Martin Swords, Shell Scientist,  
Thornton Research Centre.

"One of the biggest problems in engine design is finding

out just what's going on inside while the engine's running.

Engineers have long known that the turbulence of the petrol mixture and gases swirling inside the cylinder has an important effect on performance – but the

difficulties of measuring the characteristics of a gas cloud which explodes about every 12 milliseconds, reaches 1500°C and is locked away inside thirty or forty pounds of metal, have proved insurmountable until now.

We are now able to drill holes in an engine cylinder, insert thick quartz windows and punch laser beams through the gas clouds as they mix and burn.

Using this technique we can work out the turbulence and the velocity of the gases.

Engineers and scientists can use this data to improve both the cylinder geometry and the chemistry of the fuels.

Since we estimate that this new information could help to bring about fuel economy improvements as great as twenty per cent, it is a development of some consequence.

If you think of the difference such a saving would mean to you, it's easy to see why we think this work is so important."





ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 24. Dealings End, Today. § Contango Day, April 14. Settlement Day, April 21  
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

[illegible]





## EEC rules on Italian textiles ban

The European Community Commission said in Brussels yesterday that a Milan court's decision to block cheap synthetic fibre imports from the United States was illegal.

"It is a clear and manifest breach of community law", a spokesman said, adding that the Italian government had indicated it would take the appropriate steps to have the ruling overturned.

The court last week ordered a temporary injunction against imports of allegedly unfairly priced acrylic fibres shipped by American Cynosamid, and of polyester by the Carter Moore corporation. It said it would bar the products until the two companies raised their prices to make up for the supposed advantage they enjoy from cheaper feedstocks.

**Toyota boosts car parts**

Toyota Motor Company will almost double the value of its car part imports this year to 17,000m yen (£30.09m) from 9,000m last year, mainly from the United States and Britain.

**Oil products prices fall**

Consumer prices for the main products sold in the European Community weakened in the week ending 31 to their lowest levels since mid-December, the latest commission oil bulletin showed.

**Ford buys in China**

Ford Motor Company is buying parts in China for the first time to use in its European tractor plants. It has agreed to buy 5.2m of axle shafts, levers, drawbar-chain assemblies and manifold covers from the China National Machinery Import and Export Corporation.

**Japan discount rate**

Mr Minoru Nagasaki, Japan's vice-minister of finance, ruled out a further increase in the Bank of Japan's official discount rate from the record-equalling 9 per cent set last month.

**Nuclear production up**

Nuclear power plants generated almost 11 per cent of the electricity produced in the EEC last year compared with about 9 per cent in 1978, Belgium AIN led the EEC nuclear league.

**Australian coal deal**

A group of Japanese electric power companies and a trading house have reached a basic agreement with an Australian non-ferrous metal company on joint development of coal mines in Australia.

## Government embarks on programme to shore up sagging economy

# Another tough package for the Danes

Mr Anker Joergensen, the Danish Prime Minister, and his six-month-old Social Democratic minority government, have embarked on negotiations with five right and centre parties, headed by the Conservatives and Liberals, to secure a parliamentary majority for a new economic package.

The package, to shore up Denmark's sagging economy, was announced on Tuesday, and includes increases in taxation next year of 5,000m kroner (£384m) and public expenditure cuts of 8,000m kroner.

If passed, the measures would mean a 5 per cent fall in real wages this year, offset by a reduction in the country's balance of payments deficit of 15,600m kroner in 1979, and this year's projected deficit of 16,300m kroner reduced to around 7,000m kroner by 1984.

An indication of the gravity of the Danish economic situation can be gleaned from a recent report by the government's economic secretariat, which predicted that the country's foreign debt would rise to 90,000m kroner in 1981, 24 per cent of the gross national product. Unemployment will leap from 6 per cent to 8 per cent, and inflation, now running at 9.5 per cent, will increase to 11.5 per cent.

A central element of the package is a new scheme to funnel capital from pension

funds and insurance companies (about 4,000m kroner a year over the next five years), into Danish industry. The increases in taxation will hit property and car owners and, if passed, a new state property tax will be instituted temporarily, electricity will go up by 12 per cent, and there will be steep rises in the price of heating, fuel and diesel oil.

The proposed increase in petrol prices would raise the cost of a litre up to 1.92 kroner, a 4 per cent rise on the present price. To compound the motorist's woe, a 25 per cent increase in the weight tax on cars is also proposed, while the tourist, seeking solace in warmer and less-expensive climates will be hit by a tax of 180 kroner a head on charter holidays.

The public expenditure cuts are designed to reduce the annual growth in public spending from a projected 4 per cent to about 1 per cent, within the next three years or so. This will in effect save 13,000m kroner in that period.

The severity of the cuts should be viewed against the fact that 1.7 million Danes or one in three of the population, is either partially employed in the public sector, or receiving an income from the government in the form of a pension or unemployment benefit. Only 800,000 are

actively employed in manufacturing, agriculture and fisheries.

The new economic proposals follow a 5 per cent devaluation of the krone last autumn, and a programme passed last Christmas limiting pay increases and freezing prices until 1981.

The latest package, nicknamed "Mr Joergensen's Easter egg", has been met largely with scepticism. Mr Thomas Nielsen, the powerful leader of the Danish trade union federation, summed up the feeling of many when he criticized it for putting too much emphasis on public spending cuts and too little on increasing production.

The leaders of the five centre right parties, whose support Mr Joergensen needs to get the package through parliament, have also expressed grave doubts as to the "digestibility" of the Social Democrats' belated Easter egg.

One thing is, however, certain. The package will have to undergo radical changes, if it is to have any chance of being accepted. The coming weeks will see hectic political manoeuvres, with yet another probably inconclusive general election likely for ballot-wear Denmark in May.

Christopher Follett

## Minister calls for end to state dependence

By Derek Harris  
Commercial Editor

Dependence on the state by industry, institutions and individuals had to be ended, Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister for Trade, told a European management forum in London yesterday. Limited help to companies was legitimate only in exceptional circumstances and if the aid was temporary.

More United Kingdom companies had gradually increased their dependence on government aid rather than profitability for survival, Mr Parkinson said. Such dependence had slowed change and resulted in Britain losing ground to all its big industrial competitors, he added.

Mr Parkinson said: "State aid or protectionist measures work rather like a drug—once introduced into the industrial bloodstream they can quickly create dependence while dulling enterprise and competitiveness. Could the habit be kicked, he asked. "We have to create a revolution in attitudes and assumptions about inflation,

about realistic wage levels, about the growth of public spending and, most crucial of all, about the role of the state in our society."

"We have got to change the instinctive reflex in this country from 'What is the Government going to do about it?' to 'What can I do about it?'"

It had been suggested that Britain had to retreat into a siege economy behind protectionist barriers, yet the volume of British exports had increased by more than a quarter in the last four years, Mr Parkinson said.

"This Government has no intention of giving in to the current protectionist clamour or to the search for scapegoats for our relative economic decline whether these be the European Community, Japan, or imports from the newly industrializing countries."

"All these are no more than an increasingly desperate attempt to evade the obvious truth that the real reasons for our problems lie not in others but ourselves."

Business appointments

Mr Richard Stein, chief executive, finance, BOC International, has become finance director of BOC the company responsible for the operations of the BOC international group in the United Kingdom and continental Europe.

Mr Christopher J. Rales, managing director of Coral Index, has been made an associate director of the parent company, Coral Leisure Group.

Mr David Durham has been appointed chairman of TI Tower Houseware in addition to his present position as managing director of TI Russell Hobbs.

Mr Marco Kapp has become director of systems research for Urwick Neeson.

## Hopes of 'fresh start' for London docks

By Michael Bailey  
Transport Correspondent

The Port of London Authority (PLA) could be heading for a significant step forward on productivity and surplus manpower as the Price Waterhouse report to Mr Norman Fowler, transport minister, was published yesterday.

With about one tenth of the port's workforce (800 out of 8,000) still surplus to requirements, the men are taking voluntary severance "thick and fast", the PLA said last night. Redundancy money of up to £8,500 a man is being paid with help from the Government's special £35m fund.

At a meeting on Wednesday, dockers overturned their earlier decision to block the movement of cargo out of the India and Millwall docks which the PLA announced last month it had finally decided to close.

"Now we have had to close the India and Millwall because of industrial action and lack of productivity progress, there could be a good chance of making a fresh start", a spokesman for the authority said.

Further concessions by the unions are essential to the efficiency of the port, accountants Price Waterhouse say in their report.

"The nub of the PLA's present financial problem is a combination of unproductive use of manpower, and its inability to divest itself of manpower which is already surplus, even on the basis of present unproductive working practices", the report says.

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Price Waterhouse support the transfer

## Implications of the banking figures

— — —

## An important announcement to our stockholders:

Copies of the 1979 Annual Report of Citicorp can now be obtained from:  
Citibank, N.A., 336 Strand, London WC2R 1HB, between the hours of 9.30am and 4pm Monday to Friday.  
Postal applications should be addressed for the attention of the Librarian.

**CITIBANK CITICORP**

## EDGAR ALLEN, BALFOUR LIMITED

Notice is hereby given of the appointment of Lloyds Bank Limited as Registrar.

All documents for registration and correspondence should in future be sent to the address below.

G. R. WOOLSEY  
Secretary



Lloyds Bank Limited,  
Registrars Department,  
Goring-by-Sea,  
Worthing, West Sussex BN12 6DA.  
Telephone: Worthing 502541  
(STD code 0903)

Lloyds Bank Limited

## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

### Stock markets

## Bank figures sustain progress

The publication of the banking figures yesterday afternoon was just enough to sustain the small advance made by equities in the morning.

With the three-week Budget account drawing to a close, and persistent rumours of a new issue today, there were more sellers in evidence than buyers. A large batch of company results also provided the market with interest, and contrasting movements.

Gilt hardened after the bank lending figures were favourably received by the market, having seen a firm morning which started £3 better for long-dated issues. But the improvement did not last, as dealers were waiting to see if today would produce a new cap. Longs closed £3 up on the day, having been £3 better, although the

morning had been quieter after early buying.

The FT Index, which had risen by 2.8 to 433.9 at the end of the first hour of trading, closed 0.5 up at 431.8.

Most of the blue chip stocks finished the day unchanged, with the exception of Glaxo whose results are due on Monday. Market rumour suggested that there were parcels of between 50 and 100,000 shares available, although most of the jobbers appeared to be buyers.

In the event, Glaxo finished 4p down at 244p. There were also buyers for Courtalds, whose results are due in May, but the price closed unchanged at 66p. ICI and Beecham were static at 370p and 115p respectively as were Dunlop at 55p and Unilever at 396p. Fisons gained 2p to 269p.

Of the 30 companies which reported figures, many were unchanged. Amora showed one of the sharpest moves, gaining 8p to 56p with its better-than-expected results, while Burton Group lost 8p after presenting disappointing interim profits.

Ladbroke gained 9p to 139p, after results in line with market expectations while Taylor Woodrow lost 8p to 343p after a disappointing 2 per cent profits improvement. Associated Biscuits dipped 2p after slightly disappointing results, while Bowater at 172p was unchanged.

The shares in Coral Leisure, now 73p, could jump sharply next Wednesday—if by then magistrates have approved the renewal of the casino licences. There have been no formal objections so far.

There was considerable demand for electricals, and Decca 'A' added 28p to 568p and the ordinary 33p to 678p. Ferranti put on 20p to 485p. Rascal gained 8p to 233p but GEC at 368p and Thorn at 208p improved by just 1p. Diploma showed a 12p rise to 430p.

Speculative interest surrounded old bid favourite ERF, which rose 8p to 85p and takeover suggestions continued to

circulate around Amalgamated Power, which added 6p to 78p and Montague L. Meyer which was up by 2p to 105p.

The absence of a bid for Guthrie from Sime Darby, which is now permissible under takeover code rules, pushed the share price down 25p to 850p, while Furness Withy, whose offer from Mr C. Y. Tung could still be referred to the Monopolies Commission, was unchanged at 368p.

Investment buying also helped Babcock International to add 5p to 97p, while a profits warning from Empire Stores on Wednesday forced the price down 6p to 142p.

The oil sector was knocked by the BP chairman's warning that the company's profits would be cut by 10 per cent, which pushed the share price down 18p to 358p. Other stocks followed suit with Shell losing 7p to 338p, and the Thistle Field problems continued to affect Tricentral which fell 14p to 272p. Ultramar finished 2p down at 534p during an active day's trading.

The second-line stocks were quieter, with Seibens losing 10p to 627p, although there was some interest in newcomer Berkeley Exploration which gained 2p to 115p in a day when its parent KCA International produced results showing that the Mud subsidiary had pulled profits down sharply. KCA was unchanged at 60p.

Buildings were also popular, with Blue Circle Industries, whose results are due later this month, rising 8p to 300p and BPR Industries gaining 5p to 182p.

Australian metals drifted down with a disappointing drilling report affecting Ashton which lost 18c to 116½c. CRA which fell 12c to 244c and Northern Mining which dipped 14c to 108c.

Gold shares reflected the drop in the bullion price which was down \$20 at \$527.5 in the afternoon. Anglo American Gold was down \$1 to \$74 while West Driefontein retreated \$24 to \$671. Cons Gold lost 8p to 473p and RTZ fell back 10p to 363p.

Equity turnover for April 9 was £70,333m (number of bargains 11,362). The most active stocks according to Exchange Telegraph were Burton, Shell, Tricentral, BP, Lismore, Dalgety, Midland, ICI, BTR, Beecham, GEC and Rascal.

## Burton Group fails to meet forecasts

By Bryan Appleyard

Burton Group's reputation as the stock to ride the retail recession suffered a blow yesterday when it unveiled interim profits only £100,000 ahead of £93m.

At the trading level the increase was £1.5m to £11.3m but, after taking out loan stock redemption surpluses, sales of properties and exchange gains on the convertible loan stock, the increase is more like £900,000 to £11m. Interest charges took £2.4m from the figure against £1.1m last time.

The market had been going for around £10m at the pre-tax level and the shares reacted by dropping 8p to 121p.

The two chief problems were Oxford Street and manufacturing. The former suffered with the rest of London retailers while the latter saw the loss of £250,000 of Temporary Employment

Subsidy as well as rising costs.

Elsewhere the group have held its own against problems of the retail. The newly acquired Perkins chain, which had about £20m to the sales increase to £118m, in profits of perhaps £1m.

The Burton shops there the year perform their continued benefit the modernization. With 120 stores out of the from this area should, for another year or so.

Sales in the first five of the second half are encouraging.

The board are now forecasting, though annual now, revising full-year down to around £17m. The interim dividend gross

## Engineering strike costs Automotive Products £

The engineering strike cost Automotive Products more than £3m in lost profit and explains the fall in pretax profits from £15.1m to £12.6m in the year to December 28 as sales up to a tenth to £197m.

However, the year's gross dividend has been doubled to 4.54p and the shares gained 2p to 76p where the yield is 5.8 per cent.

The group had a smaller tax charge in 1979, and a £5.7m write-back of deferred tax compared with £3.83m in 1978. There was also a £4.9m extraordinary credit representing the profit on an insurance claim over the book value of assets destroyed in a fire. This left

retained profits at £11.95m to £16.7m. The home market original equipment placement parts was 1978 but the group stable in gain, in although margins were

In 1980 Automotive is planning for continued res. A £15m new factory, which the firm is planning, the firm is planning.

The programme in France, America, will strengthen original equipment overseas, where gross said to be excellent demand for replacement throughout the world to grow.

## Small advance at Cosal

By Our Financial Staff

Exceptional provisions, losses on discontinued businesses and a 78 per cent rise in interest charges to £1.14m trimmed Cosal's profits growth in 1979. Pretax profits rose by 7 per cent to £1.7m on sales ahead from £29.5m to £34.8m.

The discontinued businesses, minor manufacture and Al Wales, cost the group £200,000. Provisions of £485,000 above the line were against a bad debt and an aircraft contract that

turned sour.

The group's two main lines, ship's chandlery and, both had a good increased trading profit. Borrowings rose 18 to £6.5m, or 75 per shareholdings funds, plans a £1.5m reduction when profits are increased.

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### Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Alva Int (F)	—	0.22(0.18)	9.35(7.68)	5.07(4.28)	30/5	9.1(7.37)
Agasaculum (F)	22.96(20.92)	1.9(2.11)	6.05(4.79)	1.3(1.11)	4/6	2.05(1.7)
Automotive (F)	196.6(179.4)	12.6(15.1)	—	1.67(0.77)	—	3.17(1.52)
Armstrong Bros (F)	8.63(7.26)	0.61(0.57)	153(109)	24.5(17.9)	—	24.5(17.9)
Assoc Biscuit (F)	249(217)	11.59(9.0)	11.4(10.6)	2.44(1.88)	1/7	6.34(5.15)
Aurora (F)	12.4(10.5)	3.8(3.1)	6.0(5.1)	4.61(4.61)	13/6	6.16(6.16)
Bateman Eng (F)	14.8(13.3)	1.41(1.58)	10.0(10.33)	2.35(2.09)	23/5	3.5(3.09)
Bristol Stadium (F)	0.55(0.6)	0.047(0.048)	—	0.5(0.54*)	2/5	0.5(0.54*)
Biankys Tea (F)	1.53(1.71)	0.59(0.77)	18.0(17.4)	4.0(4.0)	—	6.0(6.0)
Boustead (F)	37.0(32.27)	3.0(3.2)	1.0(0.62)	1.0(0.62)	—	1.5(1.0)
Chepstow Race (F)	0.41(0.33)	0.027(0.022)	0.2(0.19)	3.0(—)	—	3.0(—)
Cowart (F)	1.72(1.56)	91.3(90.0)	33.1(26.6)	7.25(6.77)	7/7	16.4(15.73)
RFC (F)	199.7(174.3)	4.03(7.05)	4.9(13.2)	2.4(2.4)	3/6	3.5(3.5)
Cosalt (F)	34.4(26.5)	1.71(1.6)	12.7(14.3)	3.0(2.8)	—	3.5(2.8)
Burton Group (I)	118.0(11.24)	9.34(9.23)	—	2.0(1.5)	28/5	6.0(4.3)
Christies Int (F)	24.84(20.1)	6.2(5.62)	15.28(14.32)	4.25(3.25)	28/5	6.0(4.3)
Finlay Pack (F)	6.03(5.57)	0.61(0.52)	5.8(9.56)	1.1(0.38)	—	1.5(0.66)
Brown & I (F)	390.3(299.0)	4.8(13.4)	16.17(14.99)	1.0(0.5)	—	9.0(9.8)
Cenitall (F)	1.1(0.4)	1.1(0.4)	—	1.8(1.44)	28/5	2.6(2.25)
Gen & Comm Int (F)	—	0.77(0.63)	9.34(7.14)	5.2(4.27)	27/5	9.07(6.87)
Gen Investors (F)	—	1.73(1.38)	6.74(5.26)	3.5(2.8)	23/5	3.9(4.5)
Grampian Hlids (F)	63.4(66.5)	1.9(1.6)	16.17(14.99)	3.0(2.8)	—	4.9(4.45)
Green's Econ (F)	21.02(17.03)	1.07(1.26)	10.7(13.1)	2.61(2.61)	30/5	5.23(4.73)
Hewlett-Packard (F)	—	8.53(8.24)	11.65(10.52)	0.95(0.85*)	—	1.5(0.87)
KCA Int (F)	18.96(19.14)	2.67(2.74)	4.6(7.1)	2.5(0.7)	—	4.5(1.0)
Lead Inds (F)	20.9(24.0)	2.6(2.74)	41.3(27.5)	2.86(4.82)	2/7	9.66(12.23)
Ladbroke (F)	579(469)	49.2(41.5)	52.48(41.53)	6.05(4.02)	—	11.75(7.82)
LWT (Hlids) (I)	34.38(30.99)	1.97(1.34)	—	4.08(3.31)	—	4.08(3.31)
Minat (F)	33(32.4)	8.47(15.28)	9.17(16.26)	1.71(1.41)	—	1.47(3.72)
Borus (F)	17.4(16.5)	12.82(6.7)	12.82(6.7)	2.1(1.5)	1/7	3.5(2.5)
Selection Int (F)	319.8(207.7)	26.4(19.8)	43.0(36.8)	14(10.8)	13/6	23.37(22.3)
Sigma Group (F)	9.18(6.33)	1.02(0.76)	7.19(6.38)	1.25(0.94)	—	2.0(1.44)
Sykes (F)	20.87(19.86)	0.25(1.36)	1.9(11.5)	2.5(2.5)	27/5	4.0(4.0)
Taylor W (F)	438(393)	24.6(24.0)	36.9(45.6)	10.2(6.48)	—	19.3(17.9)
Tibury Cont (F)	56.89(45.25)	0.58(2.49)	17.26(56.64)	16.3(16.3)	—	16.3(16.3)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre tax and earnings are net. \*—Dividends are shown gross. —Adjusted for scrip issue. —Loss. —Figures for both years are brokerage income.

## Stockbrokers to merge

London stockbroker Kent, East, Newton, which was formed only two and a half years ago, is to merge with the Birmingham firm Margets & Addenbrooke.

Yesterday's announcement was the culmination of four months of talks and both parties emphasized that the amalgamation, on April 28, did not signal retrenchment.

"We are coming together from positions of strength and from a common attitude to business," said Mr William Hands, who will be senior partner of the enlarged firm, Margets & Addenbrooke, East, Newton.

The merger will generate cost savings but no redundancies. The total staff, excluding partners and associate members, will be 30.

## Trade Development Bank Holding S.A.

### Highlights of the Year

For our Group, 1979 was a successful year. Earnings rose significantly, due largely to careful cost and credit control, well-balanced assets and liabilities and the deployment by Group banks of their special skills in export finance, foreign exchange, precious metals and banknotes.

The Group increased to US\$ 40 million the issue of 25-year fixed rate notes in the domestic US market and issued US\$ 40 million floating rate notes in the international capital market. The proceeds of these issues were used to finance a 5% addition (from 60% to 65%) to our stake in Republic National Bank of New York, the holding company for Republic National Bank of New York, and to increase the capital of Group banks.

Republic National Bank of New York had risen to over US\$ 500 million and it had become the 41st bank in the USA ranked by deposits. Republic National Bank of New York Corporation increased its quarterly dividend from US\$ 0.50 to US\$ 0.63 per share.

The geographical expansion of the last two years has been rewarded rapidly as our new banking subsidiary in Uruguay and Republic's new branches in Hong Kong and Chile are already contributing to profits.

In view of the excellent results and the encouraging start to 1980, the Board is recommending an increased dividend of US\$ 0.75 per share, compared with US\$ 0.65 per share for 1978.

EDMOND J. SAFRA  
Chairman

By 31st December, 1979, stockholders' equity of

24th March, 1980

### Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1979

Assets	31st December 1979	31st December 1978	Liabilities	31st December 1979	31st December 1978
US\$ 000	US\$ 000	US\$ 000	US\$ 000	US\$ 000	US\$ 000
Cash, balances and advances to banks	1,637,004	1,307,196	Deposits, balances due to customers and inter reserves	6,213,466	4,611,794
Bank certificates of deposit	556,375	407,930	Other liabilities	222,685	170,781
Precious metals	4,513,372	4,155,259	Capital and loan funds:	6,436,149	4,782,174
Trading account securities	140,358	144,152	Sinking Fund Notes 2002-2003	60,000	30,000
Financial paper	1,872,732	1,702,405	Sinking Fund Debentures 2001	50,000	50,000
Investment account securities	562,390	466,727	Sinking Fund Debentures 2002	35,000	35,000
Customer current accounts and advances	1,090,395	922,629	Floating Rate Notes 1986	40,000	—
Investments	42,247	5,109	Other loans	39,435	47,873
Fixed assets	66,591	62,355	Minority interests	107,435	108,854
Other assets	201,701	100,820	Shareholders' funds:	24,620	24,605
			Share capital	228,529	194,683
			Reserves	253,490	218,288
			Total shareholders' funds	585,019	490,015
			Total capital and loan funds employed	7,021,168	5,272,170
			Contingent liabilities:	362,429	195,897
			Letters of credit and guarantees		

\* adjusted to basis year forward sales of US\$ 206,381,000 in 1979 and US\$ 161,861,000 in 1978.

For the year ended 31st December

	1979	1978
Net earnings after taxes, minority interests and transfer to inter reserves (US\$ 000)	44,387	33,690
Earnings per share	US\$ 2.70	US\$ 2.05
Number of shares outstanding	16,413,300	16,403,300

### Principal Subsidiaries

Trade Development Bank, Geneva • Republic National Bank of New York, New York  
Other affiliates and offices in: Beirut, Bogota, Buenos Aires, Caracas, Chisao, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, London, Luxembourg, Mexico City, Miami, Montevideo, Nassau, Panama, Paris, Rio de Janeiro, Santiago de Chile, São Paulo, Tokyo.

## Progress at Associated Biscuits

- TRADING PROFIT UP 48%
- PROFIT BEFORE TAX UP 29%
- PROFIT AFTER TAX UP 40%
- DIVIDEND UP 26%

A summary of the Statement by the Chairman  
The Hon. Gordon W. N. Palmer on the results for the year ended 31st December, 1979.

THE RESULTS. 1979 was a year of progress and consolidation, following the acquisitions of 1978. Good results from the Snack Food Division—appearing in the figures for the first time—contributed largely to the 48% increase in trading profit from £9.7m to £14.3m. Turnover rose by 61%, from £217m to £349m.

DIVIDEND. A final dividend of 12.2% brings the 1979 total to 22.2% (1978, 17.65%), fulfilling the intention expressed at the time of the Rights Issue of December 1978.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES. Despite the pressures of inflation, plans for 1980 indicate that UK resources should be adequate to meet operational needs. This is

helped by the low level of tax to be borne due to the high level of capital allowances and stock appreciation relief.

THE FUTURE. "I believe that the re-balancing of the Group, with less dependence on the UK biscuit market, a larger presence in North America and Europe, and a substantial stake in the snack food market, will enable us to continue to grow both in turnover and profits. We have set ourselves some ambitious targets for 1980, and unless we are overwhelmed by events beyond our control I see no reason why these targets should not be achieved."

### Results in brief

	1979	1978
Year ended 31st December	£000's	£000's
Group sales	349,091	216,918
Profit before tax	11,591	9,001
Profit after tax	8,025	5,713
Dividend	4.44p	3.53p

Copies of the 1979 Report and Accounts, containing the full Statement by the Chairman may be had on request from the Secretary.  
The Associated Biscuit Manufacturers Limited, 121 Kings Road, Reading RG1 3DE.

**The Associated Biscuit Manufacturers Limited**



HUNTLEY & PALMERS

JACOB

PEEK FREAN

DAD'S

DAVID

HUNTLEY BOO & STEVENS

OP CHOCOLATE

CAXTON

BENDICKS

SMITHS

## FINANCIAL NEWS

## Woodrow appoints market

Woodrow's shares fell 34p yesterday following disappointing results for the year ended December 31. The company, which had a turnover of £18m in 1979, reported a profit of £1.8m, a 17 per cent increase on the £1.5m of 1978.

The company's turnover was 11 per cent higher at £18m, but both profits and dividends were down by 15p. The company's turnover was 11 per cent higher at £18m, but both profits and dividends were down by 15p.

## Industries

Industries reported a profit of £1.8m in 1979, a 17 per cent increase on the £1.5m of 1978. The company's turnover was 11 per cent higher at £18m, but both profits and dividends were down by 15p.

## Bank Base Rates

Bank Base Rates: 12% for 12 months, 10% for 6 months, 8% for 3 months, 6% for 1 month. The Bank of England has kept rates unchanged.

## M. J. H. Nightingale &amp; Co. Limited

Company	Price	Change	Gross Div	%	P/E
Accor Group	62	+2	6.7	10.8	*3.7
Accor & Rhodes	28	+2	3.8	13.6	*1.8
Bardon H&H	263	+3	13.8	5.2	*7.7
County Cars-Pref	80	+1	15.3	19.1	10.8
Deborah Ord	98	+1	5.0	5.1	6.6
Frank Horsell	107	+1	12.8	12.9	*4.5
Frederick Parker	99	+1	12.8	12.9	*4.5
George Blain	107	+1	12.8	12.9	*4.5
Jackson Group	69	+1	5.2	7.5	*4.1
James Burroughs	114	+1	7.2	6.3	10.0
Robert Jenkins	272	+3	31.3	12.5	*8.7
Torrey Limited	222	+1	14.3	6.4	*5.8
Twillock Ord	15	+1	0.8	8.6	*2.9
Twillock 12.5% ULS	80	+1	12.0	15.0	10.2
Twillock Holdings	48	+1	2.6	5.4	10.4
Unilock Holdings New	48	+1	2.6	5.4	10.4
Walter Alexander	97	+1	4.4	4.5	6.4
W. S. Yeates	186	+1	12.1	6.5	*3.0

## Kode International Limited

	1979	1978
OVER	£8,502,708	£7,522,731
AX PROFIT	1,253,158	1,250,171
INGS PER SHARE	17.42p	23.75p
DIVIDEND	6.58p	6.247p

was maintained and our investment programme was maintained despite the external problems which have had to come during the year.

mediate prospects must be clouded by the uncertain economic climate, but investment decisions are made with a view to the longer term and we have sufficient finance in the company's future, reinforced by an increase in the order book compared with this time last year. Dennis Tudor, Chairman.

## Profits slump at Minet Holdings

By Richard Allen

Insurance Correspondent

Two decades of profits growth came to a halt for Minet Holdings last year. The insurance broker revealed yesterday that profits fell 45 per cent to £8.5m as the group was hit by exchange rate movements and fierce competition in United States markets.

The figures follow a stream of disappointing results from the sector, but Minet was hit by the change in its insurance business, particularly professional indemnity.

In this field premium rates and commissions have been driven down by as much as 30 per cent, reflecting competition among underwriters keen to take advantage of soaring interest rates.

As a result, Minet's brokerage income rose only 2 per cent to £3.5m, while expenses soared 24 per cent to £3.5m, a ratio of 91 per cent. The rise in expenses was due partly to special factors, including the consolidation of an American associate. Minet claims underlying growth was more like 16 per cent.

Profits were further depressed by a special provision amounting to £1.39m taken above the tax line.

Although it foresees little hope of recovery in insurance markets this year, Minet claims it could be set for a "substantial" profits growth in 1981.

In the meantime, the group has been raised 20 per cent with a final of 2.45p gross, taking the total to 6.38p gross. The payment is twice covered by declared earnings of 9.17p gross.

The setback left Minet's shares unchanged last night at 58p. They have been buoyed in recent months by buying in American group Corroon & Black and by market hopes of a full-scale bid.

Corroon has said that it intends to build a 20 per cent stake before discussing a premium pooling plan with Minet, its stake now is 13 per cent.

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This reflects the final unwinding of the close association that existed between the two groups before Minet formed its alliance with Corroon.

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## Strike trims LWT to £2m.

By Our Financial Staff

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company of London Weekend Television, saw profits fall from £3.44m to £1.98m in the 26 weeks to January 27.

Profits before the exchequer levy were down from £7m to £4m. Turnover rose from £33m to £34.4m.

Mr John Freeman, the chairman, reports that the damage was largely done by the 11-week strike that shut down ITV. But he says the group has now fully recovered.

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One bright spot was a strong maiden contribution from travel agents, Page & May.

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## Aurora suffers first fall since 1972

By Philip Robinson

Fast-expanding Sheffield steel

and engineering group Aurora Holdings, which spent £25.15m on two major acquisitions in two years — has suffered its first profits setback since 1972. Mr Robert Atkinson, the chairman, yesterday reported earnings down from £4.3m to £3.8m on a turnover, 55 per cent up at £103m.

The group are paying an unchanged gross dividend of 8.8p. The figures topped stock market hopes, and the share recovered from Wednesday's fall to be a shade better at 56p.

Once again the bulk of profits came from Aurora's traditional engineering companies, Edgar Allen Balfour, which the group bought last summer, made a loss of £320,000, and some parts of that group continued in the red this year.

Aurora has already closed two of EAB's sites with the loss of 400 jobs costing £200,000, which will be financed by sales of those sites. There are also plans to telescope production of an existing seven sites into two.

Last year's transport and engineering strike cost the group around £1 in lost profits, and interest charges are up from £1.5m to £3.7m.

At the end of last year had continued into the current year and that the company has opened new offices and warehouses in Venezuela and South East Asia.

The balance sheet has also been helped by a sale of land for £235,000.

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## Motoring

### The delicate art of choosing a car

Like, I suppose, anyone who writes regularly about cars and has the chance to try different models, I am frequently asked to give advice about choosing a vehicle. It is not always easy to be helpful, mainly because there are so many permutations.

Certain aspects of a car that are more or less measurable, its fuel consumption, performance, rear leg room, are useful things to know. With the cost of petrol ever on the increase, economy has been pushed inevitably to the forefront. But it is an overwhelming reason for buying, or not buying, a particular model?

Most cars sold in Britain, outside the Rolls-Royce, Jaguar and Aston Martin category, are fairly economical, the national model average, according to the Department of Energy, being 29 miles in the gallon. Changing from a Jaguar to a

Mini may cut the fuel bills dramatically, changing from a Corvair to an Escort will not.

Performance, I suspect, is becoming less of an issue, though there is still a fascination for exotic top speed figures, academic as they are in Britain if the law is to be obeyed. Speed as such has little relevance to today's motoring; on the other hand, it is more relaxing to drive, say, a Jaguar than a Citroën 2CV and the former's ability to accelerate quickly out of trouble is arguably a safety factor.

With improvements in what is called "packaging", the art of squeezing the maximum interior space out of the smallest overall dimensions, the case for buying a large car just to give more room in the back is less convincing. (The case for buying a large car to impress the neighbours is another matter.) I would say that for most uses a small hatchback, such as the Ford Fiesta, is an adequate family car.

The relative merits of the hatchback and the conventional three-box saloon, one box for the engine, one for passengers and one for the boot, have also to be weighed. The hatchback offers the greater versatility, you can usually fold the rear seat down to take awkward loads. But there are many motorists who prefer the looks of a saloon and a separate boot which guarantees that its contents will be hidden from prying eyes.

As for estate cars, it depends on the owner's requirements. For a large family making regular trips to stay with friends or relatives the more room the better. But if a large estate is going to be occupied

fully only two or three times a year, it may pay to hire one and have a smaller car for everyday use.

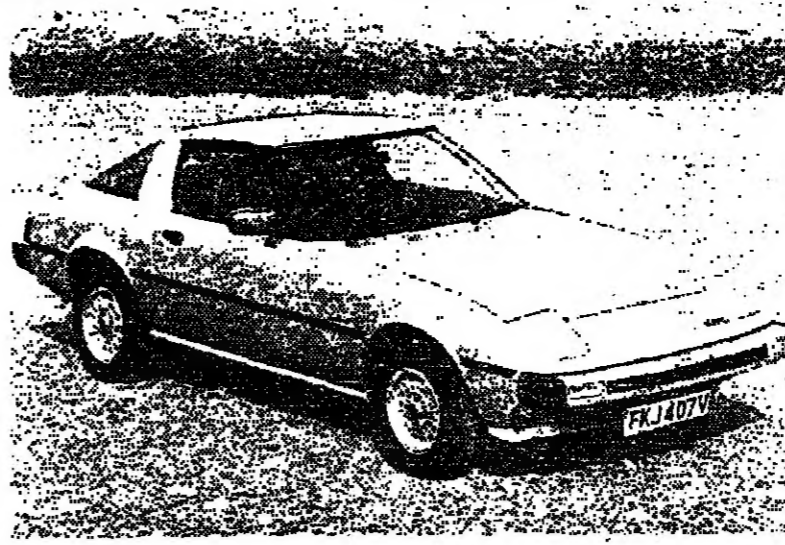
Areas such as ride and handling are difficult to measure and the subjective element inevitably creeps in. French cars, for instance, tend to have very soft springing which gives a smooth, soft ride. The seats are in keeping and you sink into them as you would into an armchair. The corollary of the soft ride is less than crisp handling; a French car is likely to roll quite noticeably on corners.

German cars, by contrast, are very firmly sprung, giving a much harder ride. The seats can be almost like boards. The handling, though, generally has a tautness that is reassuring to the driver and does not leave the passengers feeling they are about to be tipped out.

It is difficult to argue that either the French or the German solution is superior. I tend to favour French cars for their exceptionally comfortable ride, where others would go for more responsive handling. What is certain is that the two types of design have a quite different feel, and a potential owner should take that into account.

If I have a prejudice, it is for very quiet cars. Noise is one of the curses of the modern age and I have no sympathy with people who revel in it, whether sports car drivers or motorcyclists. Noise levels in cars have come down quite strikingly in recent years and it should be possible to drive the smallest model at 70 mph on a motorway without having the ear-drums assaulted.

The final word for the moment about choosing a car is to make sure



Return of the rotary—the Mazda RX-7

you try it before making a commitment. Ideally, try several and see how they compare. In the end a car is as much a matter of personal taste as a painting or a piece of music.

#### Road test: Mazda RX-7

The energy crisis dealt the Wankel rotary engine a blow from which it is only just starting to recover. Whatever may have been the advantages of the engine, smooth running, compactness, fewer moving parts, it had one overriding drawback and that was high fuel consumption. Once petrol prices soared and governments started energy saving campaigns, the Wankel was doomed. One casualty was the NSU Ro80, an excellent car, in some respects ahead of its time; and a rotary-

engined version of the Citroën GS, which had the ill luck to appear at the height of the oil crisis, was virtually stillborn. General Motors, whose enthusiasm for the Wankel in the early 1970s seemed to have assured its future, quietly pulled out as well.

But the company whose affected was the Japanese Toyo Kogyo, makers of the Mazda range. It was the first manufacturer to mass-produce rotary-engined cars, which by 1973 were accounting for half of its output. The oil crisis brought Toyo Kogyo to the verge of bankruptcy and it had to be rescued by a bank. For the next few years the company sought recovery by concentrating on conventional, piston-engined vehicles.

For the Wankel it was back to the drawing board and attempts to overcome the fuel handicap. With the RX-7 sports coupé, announced in March, 1978, and introduced in Britain last autumn, Toyo Kogyo claimed to have found the answer. Fuel consumption was said to be 40 per cent better than on previous rotary cars and as good as on piston-engined models of similar capacity.

The RX-7 engine has the equivalent of 2.3 litres capacity and delivers 105 bhp. The Mazda importers have produced a long list showing that on the official fuel consumption figures of 18.1 mpg on the urban cycle and 33.3 mpg at a constant 56 mph, the RX-7 fares as well, and in some cases better, than many rivals.

Figures, of course, can be used to prove almost anything. I would not say that 18 mpg in town driving, which corresponds closely to what I obtained, is particularly good for a two-litre car. On the other hand, cruising on the motorway in fifth gear I returned at least 30 mpg. But if one is making comparisons, the RX-7 is somewhat less economical than other sports cars of similar size such as the Porsche 924, Triumph TR7 and Ford Capri. As a small bonus, the Mazda does run on two-star fuel.

The Wankel smoothness is evident throughout the power range, but to be smooth is not necessarily to be quiet and there is a persistent drone, coupled with a sports car roar from the exhaust when the throttle is opened. The car's streamlined shape means that there is little wind noise.

On performance, the car is adequate, if not outstanding for its

class. I found the company's second optimistic, but to break the law I am willing that the top speed is an mph. Certainly it is, but drop down from fifth to fourth and the car is quick overtaking. The car suffers from a Japanese steering, namely responsive but not precise. The most European way to have long since abandoned steering does not work. The handling is reasonably good, road holding is less sure on wet surfaces. The front box is also, typically, giving clean, precise class. The conventional coil suspension gives a firm, it soaks up the bumps, it might be expected. A car may be pushed for its cracking his head against frame when getting in, but the front seats give support. Room in the back is limited, though the rear doors do open to increase the space. The rear window is reached through glass tailgate.

To have persisted with it against what must be formidable odds was a vision and it could yet pay the moment judgement is passed. The RX-7 may a small number that previous years, but it offers no advantages over piston-engined cars. It is expensive, around £20,000, and the Capri, which beats it on both and performance.

Peter W.



## CAR BUYER'S GUIDE

### ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY

#### FRANK DALE & STEPSONS

1971 Rolls-Royce Corniche Convertible, Brewster Green with beige hide, recording only 45,000 miles and with non-dating registration number. Choice of two.

1968 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud III D.M.C. by Mulliner-Park Ward. Walnut with Magnolia hide, recently subject to considerable re-decoration.

1965 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud III, 4-door saloon. Black over Dawn Blue, with blue/gray hide. With a good history, including a recent overhaul of engine and suspension.

1962 Bentley Marc B. 5.9-litre V8 saloon by H. J. Mulliner. A really excellent car in every respect.

1954 Bentley R-Type, D.M.C. by Park Ward. Pacific green over black with line beige hide. A beautiful car well known to us for over 12 years and highly recommended.

A choice of 4 Bentley Continental saloons. Details on application.

#### ALWAYS 40 CARS IN STOCK

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Telephone: 01-385 3724. Telex: 58593 DF Dale G



#### Official Rolls-Royce & Bentley distributors

1977 (S) Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow II. Only with tan hide interior. Recorded mileage 18,500. £29,500

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1977 (R) Bentley T2. Silver Chalice with dark blue leather roof and upholstery in dark blue hide. £26,750

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PRIVATE SALE. Others around £12,750.

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Unregistered 466 miles only! White, black Everley and hide etc.

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##### DELIVERY

1978 ROLLS-ROYCE SILVER SHADOW. Choice of 51. 2.5 litre 4-cyl. engine. New Mercedes. Immediate delivery. 1978 Mercedes 280TE. 2.8 litre 4-cyl. engine. 20,000 miles. Selling £25,000 on list price.

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#### MOTOR CARS

##### CHARLES MORGAN

Dear Sir, I am a 40 year old man with a family of four. I am looking for a car to replace my 1975 Ford. I am looking for a car that is reliable, economical and has a good safety record. I am looking for a car that is easy to drive and has a good resale value. I am looking for a car that is well maintained and has a good service record. I am looking for a car that is well priced and has a good warranty. I am looking for a car that is well equipped and has a good range of options. I am looking for a car that is well designed and has a good look. I am looking for a car that is well built and has a good reputation. I am looking for a car that is well known and has a good history. I am looking for a car that is well loved and has a good future. I am looking for a car that is well respected and has a good name. I am looking for a car that is well liked and has a good character. I am looking for a car that is well admired and has a good status. 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## PERSONAL CHOICE



in *The Gentle Touch* (ITV network, 9.00)

In conception and execution than the Thames series *The English Garden*, with its pride in heritage and Georgian prose accompaniment, in *Edward the Front Garden* (BBC 2, 9.40), with Candida Lycett lighted seeker-out of peculiarly British whimsicalities among the middle and lower middle class. It is a modest masterpiece, beautiful and touching in its simplicity. I saw it last Christmas Day and its images have been hauntingly in my memory: the contented of a cottage garden (a most affecting of summer and autumn), the old miner who with cathedrals, the topiaries and their green locomotives and jockeys, the gnomes-and-pets garden fixed to death, the potter's garden of stones, the lot and the symmetrical showpiece in which the single weed would be a botanical lesson.

It is that *Newsnight* has been absent every Friday tonight, though (BBC 2, 10.45) it will be on from Monday to Friday and we must accept the editor's explanation that it was because of shortage of news and because of any editorial judgment that considered a new series that Messrs Snow, and Miss Morrison and Co used to vanish into a limbo at 11.30 every Thursday night.

I recommend you to watch the opening episode of *As about the police*, *The Gentle Touch* (ITV, 9.00) reason that I have not seen it. But what I have is all in its favour, and certainly the central figures—woman detective-inspector in the Police (Jill Gascoine) married to a humble police officer who has lost his sense of vocation and wants to resign. A decision is taken, most dramatically, out of his hands.

of playlets under the umbrella title of *Just Before* tonight with Susan Hill's *Here Comes the Bride* (45), about wedding day nerves. This late-night has been a success, generally speaking, with the duds the winners. I believe there is a chance that, for comedy, *Just Before* will not return, but it is a pity, although the BBC cannot be accused of over its drama output, as a quick flip through will confirm.

SYMBOLS MEAN: †STEREO; \*BLACK AND WHITE.

## Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davale

## TELEVISION

## BBC 1

6.40 Open University: Disaster Simulation (debating); 7.05 *Enslavement* (documentary); 7.30 *Sturges* (documentary); 7.55 *London*: Jon Oliver tells the story; 10.00 *Jackanory*: Ronald Pickup reads more from William's Luck; by Gabriel Alington; 10.15 *Asterix the Gaul*: episode three of this French cartoon series; 10.35 *Wipe Out*: 10.45 *Yip Yip*: Get the children away from the TV set and do interesting things instead. Close down at 11.00.

## BBC 2

6.40 am Open University: Drawings of *Seurat*; 7.05 *Palaeontology* and geological time; 7.30 *Ellington* (documentary); 7.55 *Play School*: Same as BBC 1; 8.35 *Close-down* at 11.25.

9.30 am Open University: Exploring frequency space; 9.55 *On*: 5.40 Partial differential equations; 6.05 *Nutrition* feeding and digestion in animals; 6.30 *Food* retaining; 6.55 *Gardener's World*: A visit to Dyffryn Gardens, near Cardiff, with its fine palm house, cactus house and orchid collection. Lots of plants that can be grown at home, too.

7.20 *News* with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.

7.30 *The Comics*: Old Mother Riley and her Daughter, Kitty; 9.40 *The Front Garden*: Another chance to see Candida Lycett Green's marvellous film about the beautiful, awful, and funny things some Britons do with their front gardens. Not to be missed (see Personal Choice).

10.40 *Cartoon Two*: Le Cadeau. The trumpet that moos.

10.45 *Newsnight*: News and current affairs (see Personal Choice).

11.30 *The Outer Limits*: American science fiction series. A landing on the Moon, and the tyrants who plan to conquer the galaxy. Sharing Ruth Roman and Alex Nicol. Ends at 12.25 am.

## Regions

**CYMRU/WALES**  
6.45 *Ysgol*: 6.55 *Ysgol*: 7.05 *Ysgol*: 7.15 *Ysgol*: 7.25 *Ysgol*: 7.35 *Ysgol*: 7.45 *Ysgol*: 7.55 *Ysgol*: 8.05 *Ysgol*: 8.15 *Ysgol*: 8.25 *Ysgol*: 8.35 *Ysgol*: 8.45 *Ysgol*: 8.55 *Ysgol*: 9.05 *Ysgol*: 9.15 *Ysgol*: 9.25 *Ysgol*: 9.35 *Ysgol*: 9.45 *Ysgol*: 9.55 *Ysgol*: 10.05 *Ysgol*: 10.15 *Ysgol*: 10.25 *Ysgol*: 10.35 *Ysgol*: 10.45 *Ysgol*: 10.55 *Ysgol*: 11.05 *Ysgol*: 11.15 *Ysgol*: 11.25 *Ysgol*: 11.35 *Ysgol*: 11.45 *Ysgol*: 11.55 *Ysgol*: 12.05 *Ysgol*: 12.15 *Ysgol*: 12.25 *Ysgol*: 12.35 *Ysgol*: 12.45 *Ysgol*: 12.55 *Ysgol*: 1.05 *Ysgol*: 1.15 *Ysgol*: 1.25 *Ysgol*: 1.35 *Ysgol*: 1.45 *Ysgol*: 1.55 *Ysgol*: 2.05 *Ysgol*: 2.15 *Ysgol*: 2.25 *Ysgol*: 2.35 *Ysgol*: 2.45 *Ysgol*: 2.55 *Ysgol*: 3.05 *Ysgol*: 3.15 *Ysgol*: 3.25 *Ysgol*: 3.35 *Ysgol*: 3.45 *Ysgol*: 3.55 *Ysgol*: 4.05 *Ysgol*: 4.15 *Ysgol*: 4.25 *Ysgol*: 4.35 *Ysgol*: 4.45 *Ysgol*: 4.55 *Ysgol*: 5.05 *Ysgol*: 5.15 *Ysgol*: 5.25 *Ysgol*: 5.35 *Ysgol*: 5.45 *Ysgol*: 5.55 *Ysgol*: 6.05 *Ysgol*: 6.15 *Ysgol*: 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